Reyes orders halt of military probe of Mindoro slays

Story on PAGE A2

IN *Sunday Lifestyle*

- Orosa-Nakpil collective, Manila's creative quarter
  Guest Editor Markus Schmidt
  SECTION E

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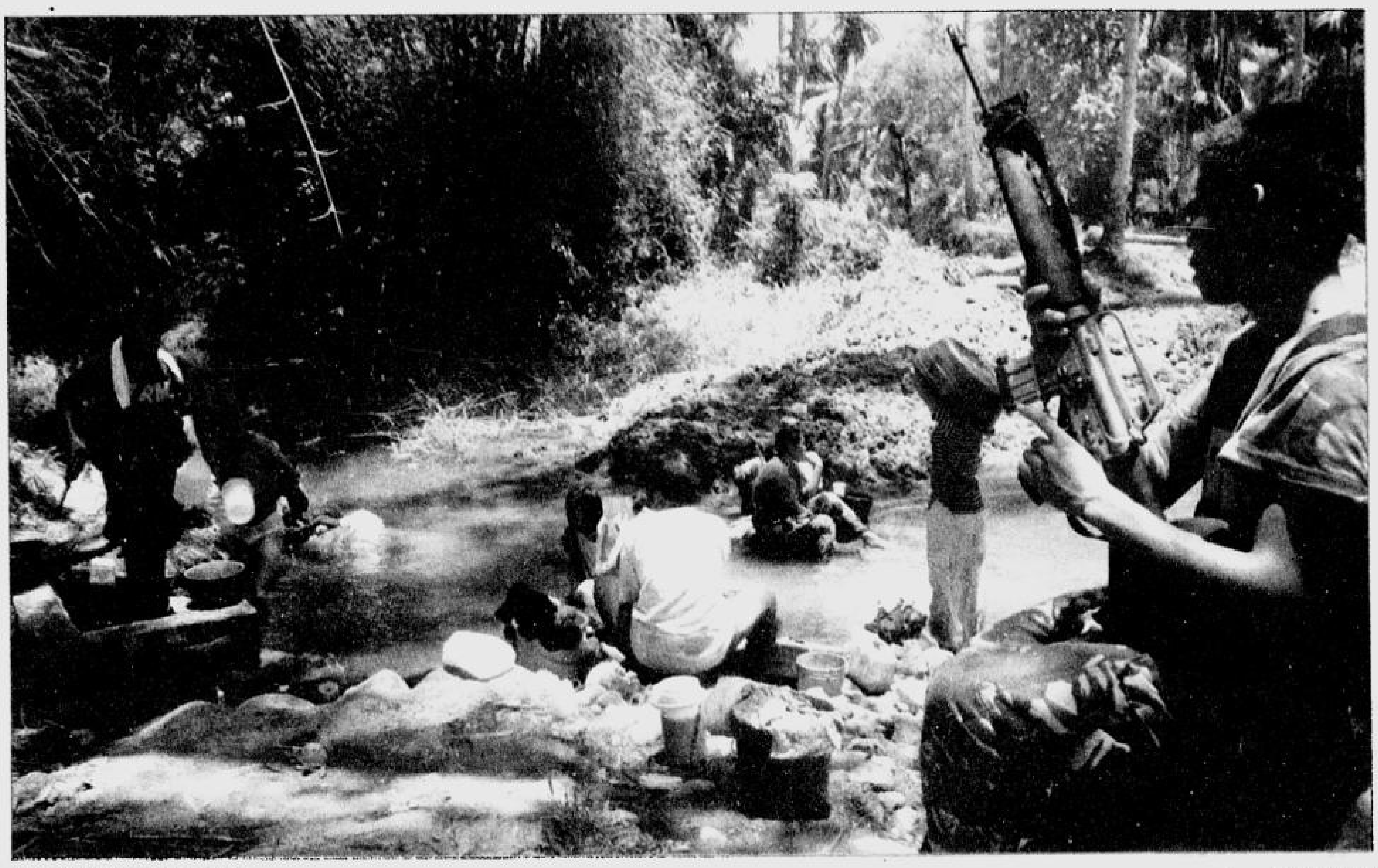
Sin: Kiss saints no more



LIGHT AND SHADOW
EDWIN BACASMAS
Harsh reality intrudes into a scene with a very Amorsolo feeling at the Barungison River in Maigo, Lanao del Norte, where about 600 MILF members mounted an offensive last Thursday, killing two and holding hostage 300 people until the military counterattacked. So a soldier needs to keep watch while his buddy dips into the portrait.

Faithful asked: Storm the heavens with prayers

By Armand N. Nocum

THE CATHOLIC faithful can no longer indulge in their favorite act of piety inside churches: Kissing the statues of their patron saints.

Yesterday, Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin asked the Catholic faithful to stop kissing religious icons, revised the practice of communion and ordered "emergency" prayers to ward off the advent of the deadly SARS virus.

In a two-page circular released to parishes, transparochial communities and religious congregations and movements yesterday, Sin urged the Catholic majority in this country of 82 million to stop the practice of kissing (also wiping with their handkerchiefs) religious icons displayed for public veneration.

"In this moment of uncertainty about this illness, we highly recommend that communion in the hand be practiced," Sin added.

This means priests should place the communion host in the hands of the communicants, rather than placing it di-

SIN/ A20

New kidney, new life for Abadilla 5 death convict

By Stella O. Gonzales

ONE of the five men sentenced to death for the 1996 killing of ex-Col. Rolando Abadilla has a new lease on life in the form of a transplanted kidney.

After eight months of waiting for a donor, Lenido Lumanog is recovering well after receiving a kidney from his wife, Marilou. Both spouses are 46.

The transplant surgery, performed last Tuesday at the National Kidney and Transplant Institute (NKTI) in Quezon City, took two and a half hours.

Lumanog was thankful to all those who helped make the transplant surgery possible, especially First Gentleman Jose Miguel Arroyo who promised to help him after learning of his plight through an INQUIRER series on the "Abadilla 5" last December.

"So far so good" was how the transplant surgeon, Dr. Caesar Casanova, described his patient's condition. "The donated kidney is functioning well for his body."

Indeed, Lumanog yesterday told the INQUIRER that it was as if the donated organ wes tailor-made for him.

"The doctors said Marilou's kidney was good—like it was God-given," he said in Filipino.

The Abadilla 5—Lumanog, Cesar Fortuna, Joel de Jesus, Rameses de Jesus and Augusto Santos—are facing the death penalty for the killing of Abadilla, an intelligence officer during the martial law regime.

The sentence was handed down on the basis of the five men's alleged "tortured" confessions and the uncorroborated testimony of a lone witness, and despite repeated claims by the communist hit squad Alex Boncayao Brigade that it was responsible for the assassination.

The five men were placed on Death Row in August 1999. But last August, the Supreme Court allowed Lumanog to be

NEW/ A17

Loneliness without the romance of a rescue

By Denny Wang
Contributor

(The author is a director of Yats International Ltd., a locator in Clark Development Corporation who resides in Hong Kong)

WHEN was the last time you felt genuinely afraid of the person seated next to you on a plane? He doesn't carry a bag big enough to blow anything up, nor does he wear air-cushioned sneakers. Heck, he even drinks wine and looks remarkably like your banker—no, not the one who called in your loan last week the one who took you out to lunch at Luk Yu Tea House to tell you about the latest products in non-deliverable derivatives.

The quintessential fiber of happiness—trust—has been stolen from mankind. Hong Kong is just a glimpse of how things will soon become in most major cities in the world. We, citizens of the world at large, had better get used to it. Everywhere you go, streets, a bus, MRT, Park and Shop, Ocean Park, Stanley Beach, Star Ferry, a school or the frontline of this war with the SARS—an eleva-

LONELINESS/ A7

Bored in isolation, JP asks for television set

By Joey A. Gabieta
PDI Visayas Bureau

PALO, Leyte—The only thing she asked for was a television set, apparently to ward off boredom while confined with her husband in the isolation room of the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center (EVRMC) in Tacloban City.

JP, who is suspected to be suffering from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome, did not show any signs of depression during her first night at the EVRMC, said Dr. Alden Tabao, the hospital's chief of surgery.

JP and her husband will stay in the isolation room, located at the annex building, for the next 13 days.

So far, health officials noted that JP was showing signs of recovery.

"She is in high spirits. She has no fever and is ambulatory. She was able to sleep well last night," said Tabao.

Her blood pressure was also normal, he added.

BORED/ A20

"JP" ASCENDING toward the isolation room at the annex of the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center in Tacloban City.
LSDE PHOTO/VEN LABRO

WHO: OFWs chief carriers of SARS virus into country

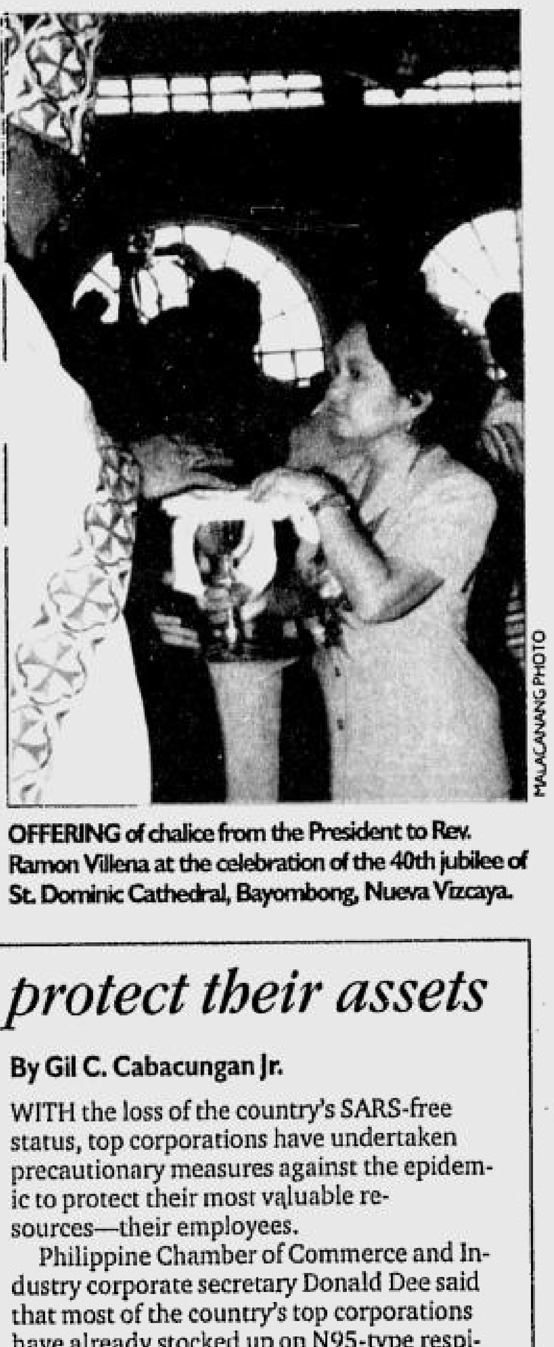
By Armand N. Nocum
in Manila
and Yolanda Sotelo-Fuertes
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

THE WORLD Health Organization admitted that overseas Filipino workers could be the Philippines' chief carriers of SARS, but urged the public to treat them kindly.

WHO country representative Jean Marc Olive said the cases of Adela Catalon and JP, who worked in Canada and Hong Kong, respectively, showed a pattern that OFWs were the carriers of the deadly virus here.

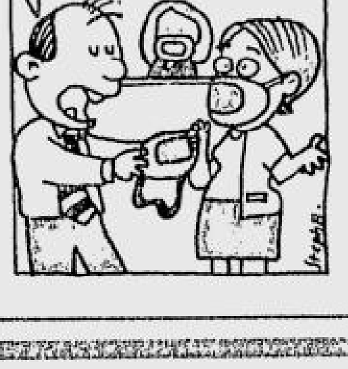
"We should not stigmatize

WHO/ A21



MALACAÑANG PHOTO
OFFERING of chalice from the President to Rev. Ramon Villena at the celebration of the 40th jubilee of St. Dominic Cathedral, Bayombong, Nueva Vizcaya.

Firms rush to protect their assets



DAHIL TAYO ANG TANGING YAMAN !

By Gil C. Cabacungan Jr.

WITH the loss of the country's SARS-free status, top corporations have undertaken precautionary measures against the epidemic to protect their most valuable resources—their employees.

Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry corporate secretary Donald Dee said that most of the country's top corporations have already stocked up on N95-type respiratory masks for distribution to their employees next week.

Dee said the masks would not only help prevent or contain the SARS virus from

FIRMS/ A7

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Mindanao will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms. The rest of the country will have partly cloudy to at times cloudy skies with isolated rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: ARMIN ADINA, PDI RESEARCH/04/27/03

Metro Manila	Partly cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly cloudy
Baguio	Partly cloudy	Roxas	Partly cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly cloudy	Cebu	Partly cloudy
Laoag	Partly cloudy	Tacloban	Partly cloudy
Clark Zone	Partly cloudy	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with rains
Tagaytay	Partly cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with rains
Legazpi	Partly cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with rains
Calapan	Partly cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with rains

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Second FRONTPAGE

Reyes: No whitewash

Military halts own probe into activists' deaths

BAGUIO CITY—The military has stopped its own investigation into the murder of two human rights activists in Oriental Mindoro to assure militants that there would be no whitewash of the case, Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes said yesterday.

But the Army's 204th Infantry Brigade will not be withdrawn from the province as militants have demanded, said Reyes, who was a guest at the 58th anniversary yesterday of Baguio's liberation at the end of World War II.

Reyes reiterated that Col. Jovito Palparan, commander of the 204th IB, has been relieved of his post to give the National Bureau of Investigation a free hand in the investigation of the deaths of human rights activists Eden Marcellana and Eddie Gumanoy early last week.

INQUIRER sources in the justice department, apparently quoting from a fact-finding report, said there were strong indications that the military, and not anti-communist vigilantes, carried out the abduction, torture and killing of the activists.

"Palparan has been asked to go on leave and is right now at the headquarters of the Army's 2nd Infantry Division in Tanay (Rizal), so his deputy assumes (his post). We need to prevent any impression that he is interfering in the investigation," Reyes said.

"The President has assigned Justice Undersecretary Jose Calida to look into the matter. The NBI is looking into it. It's better we let these two agencies undertake the investigation to prevent any impression of a whitewash," Reyes added.

Calida heads a five-member team that President Macapagal-Arroyo had ordered the Department of Justice to form.

Marcellana, secretary general of the Karapatan human rights group in Southern Tagalog, and Gumanoy, chair of the farmers' group Katipunan ng mga Samahang Magbubukid sa Timog Katagalugan, were found dead in Bansud, Oriental Mindoro, early this week.

The two had been abducted, along with Francisco Saez, Melvin Jocson and Virgilio Catoy, on a highway in Naujan town by armed men wearing ski masks.

Saez, Jocson and Catoy later surfaced unharmed. They said they were released after the group tortured and murdered Marcellana and Gumanoy.

Militants yesterday said the initial findings of the fact-finding team confirmed what they had long been saying, "that Mindoro Oriental is being ruled with terror" by Palparan and the 20th IB.

Bayan secretary general Teodoro "Teddy" Casiño demanded that the DOJ open a "full dress" inquiry into more than 30 cases of alleged military atrocities against activists and civilians in the province.

Casiño decried the decision to merely transfer Palparan from Mindoro to Rizal province, as this "practically threatens Rizal folk with a clear and present danger."

The beleaguered Palparan yesterday accepted the initial report of the DOJ investigating team, but said he believe the findings were "not yet final."

He said he was staying home and leaving everything to the DOJ investigators.

He was also leaving his promotion to one-star general up to the Commission on Appointments, he said. *Reports from Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, TJ Burgonio, Metro Manila and Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Activists' remains taken on last journey to Mendiola

By Jerome Aning and Clarice Colting
PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

MILITANT groups yesterday marched to Mendiola (Don Chino Roces) Bridge near Malacañang with the coffins of two human rights activists allegedly killed by the military in Mindoro Oriental early last week.

Some 1,200 protesters chanted anti-military slogans as they marched behind the red-draped caskets of peasant leader Eddie Gumanoy and rights activist Eden Marcellana from the Welcome Rotunda to Malacañang.

Leaders of the caravan of about 30 jeepneys patiently negotiated with police who blocked their way three times during the march.

Streamers hung from an overpass along España Avenue and red and yellow confetti rained on the passing protesters.

The marchers, composed of activists, friends and colleagues of Marcellana and Gumanoy, placed the two coffins at the foot of the bridge and called for justice for victims of human rights violations, the pull-out of the 204th Infantry Brigade from Oriental Mindoro, and the removal of its head, Col. Jovito Palparan Jr.

A placard reading "Let Mindoro Bleed No More" showed a map of the island and the 32 murders allegedly perpetrated there by the 204th IB under Palparan.

"This is what President Macapagal-Arroyo's strong republic is all about, waging war in the countryside at the expense of civilians," said Orly Marcellana, Eden's husband and secretary general of Kasama-TK.

The protesters challenged the President to view the remains of Marcellana and Gumanoy - and see the extent of human rights violations in Oriental Mindoro.

After the "indignation" rally, Gumanoy's remains were to be interred at the Liza Compound chapel in Sto. Tomas, Batangas, while Marcellana's were to be brought to General Luna, Quezon.

Bayan secretary general Teodoro Casiño said the government should also probe the involvement of the military in 10 murders of community leaders in Mindoro last year.

Casiño said the militants were ready to provide more than 1,000 pieces of evidence consisting of affidavits, photos and videos pointing to the alleged culpability of Palparan and the 204th IB.

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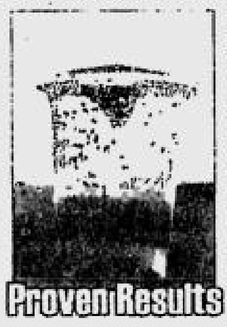

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Military, MILF in rare Davao City clash

DAVAO CITY—Soldiers and militiamen under the Army's 73rd Infantry Battalion clashed yesterday with suspected Moro Islamic Liberation Front guerrillas in Barangay Tagurano in Toril District here.

The 30-minute encounter was the first clash between government forces and the MILF in the city in years. No injuries were reported on the government side, while the military said it inflicted an undetermined number of casualties on the rebels' side.

Tagurano is some 20 km from the downtown area here, which has been under heavy security following the Davao International Airport bombing March 4 and the April 2 blast at the Sasa Wharf, both of which killed at least 48 people.

Military officials said the rebels were constructing bunkers in Sitio Upper Immaculate when they were spotted by patrolling soldiers and members of the Civilian Armed Auxiliary.

Cpl. Randy Pagaduan, leader of the 16-member patrol team, said a clash ensued, resulting in casualties to the MILF group.

The rebels then fled toward Upper Katkat, the same village used by Davao-based MILF rebels as a camp in 2000.

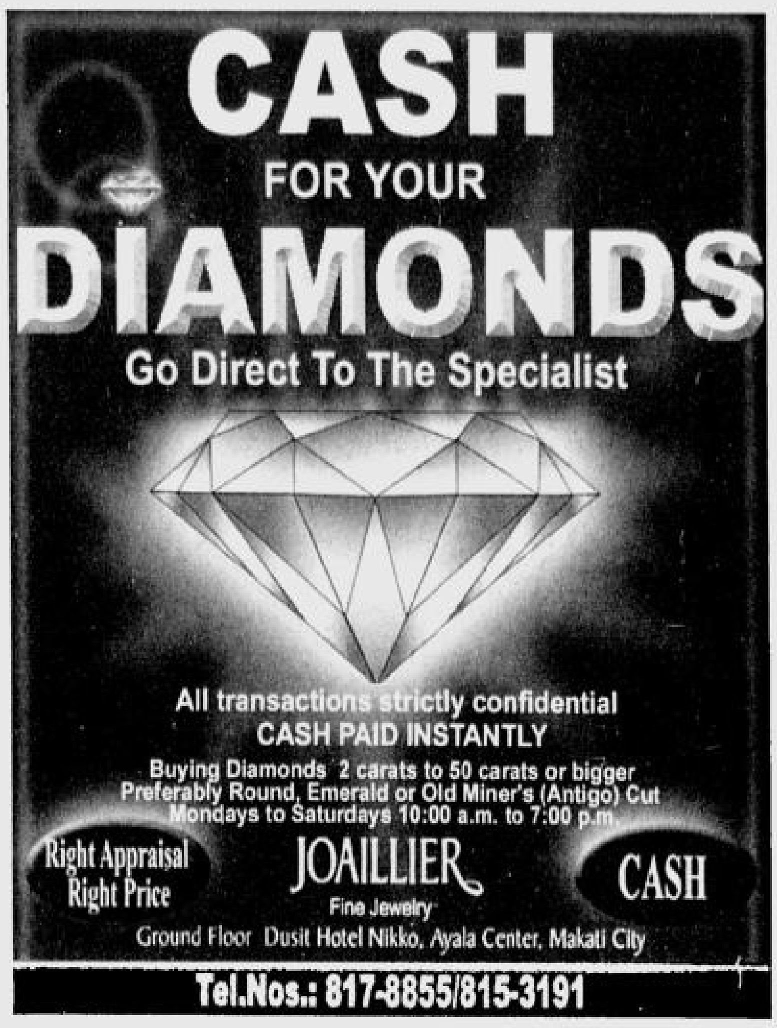
The government forces recovered eight rocket-propeller grenades, two M-79 grenade launchers, ammunition and a backpack with a copy of the Koran and personal belongings at the scene of the clash.

Maj. Magno Adalin, officer in charge of the 73rd Infantry Battalion, said his men went to the area after receiving reports of armed men there.

In Cotabato City, the military and police instituted tighter security measures following reports that the MILF had sent bombers to the area on board a van and a passenger jeep.

Maj. Gen. Generoso Senga, commander of the Army's 6th Infantry Division, said all vehicles entering the city were being inspected to catch the bombers.

"I ordered my police commanders to maintain surveillance as well as intelligence-gathering to find these vehicles," city police chief Senior Supt. Peraco Macacua said. *Dennis Jay C. Santos, with Edwin O. Fernandez and Rosa-May V. de Guzman, PDI Mindanao Bureau*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Workers rap freebies; vow mass protest on Labor Day

MILITANT groups slammed Malacañang yesterday for "trivializing" the observance of Labor Day next week by offering workers free train rides, concerts and basketball games.

These freebies not only gloss over the fact that no new incentives for labor are being offered this year, they also mock the centennial of the country's first Labor Day rally celebrated in 1903, the Kilusang Mayo Uno said.

The Department of Labor and Employment is said to be offering workers free concerts at the Rizal Park, free bleacher seats to Philippine Basketball Association games and free MRT and LRT rides on May 1.

In a press forum, KMU chair Elmer Labog also faulted the Palace for giving private employers the option of choosing when to give their employees a holiday—either on May 1 or 2. The two days have been declared non-working holidays for government employees.

This flexibility would enable private employers to deny their employees the opportunity to join May Day protest actions, Labog said.

"While workers are fighting for life-and-death (issues) like urgent economic relief through higher wages, just benefits and job security, Dole and Malacañang merely countered our demands with trivial freebies," he said.

The KMU said it was mobilizing around 50,000 protesters in Metro Manila alone on May 1.

This year's rallies will mark the 100th anniversary of the first Labor Day march in the country in 1903, which was led by the Union Obrera Democratica.

Labog recalled how some 100,000 people marched to Malacañang that day, shouting "Death to Imperialism!" and condemning US military atrocities during the Philippine-American war.

In another forum, the Alliance of Progressive Labor yesterday branded as an "insult" to workers a business organization's recent proposal of a 10-year strike ban in exchange for generation of millions of new jobs.

"The workers' right to strike is not the cause of unemployment in the country," said APL chair Daniel Edralin. "It is a fact that (the number of) strikes has declined in the past 10 years and yet unemployment has been rising."

Volt Contreras

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Tausugs now want war games in Sulu

JOLO, Sulu—At least 3,000 Tausugs showed up at a rally here yesterday in support of proposed joint military exercises with the United States.

The rally was organized by provincial and municipal officials led by Luuk town mayor Abdurahman Arbison and his son, Rep. Munir Arbison.

Gov. Yusop Jikiri said the turnout, considered impressive by many because of perceptions that the Sulu Tausugs were against the war games, made them more confident that residents of the island-province have thrown their full support behind Balikatan 03-1.

"If we keep on doing this effort, we can generate more than 70 percent support from the people," said Jikiri after the rally, dubbed "Enlightenment on Balikatan 03-1."

Jikiri later admitted that the rally was aimed at helping President Macapagal-Arroyo counter the criticism against the war exercises and the presence of US troops.

Of the province's 18 town mayors, only Jolo Mayor Suhod Tan did not attend, although he sent a representative.

Tan had earlier said the Tausugs did not need the Americans.

He had said that what the people of Sulu need more are projects to alleviate poverty and not more war.

But Jikiri said that even if Tan was not present, the mayor had "expressed his full support for this endeavor."

In a speech read for him by Jolo Councilor Edsir Tan, Mayor Tan urged the Tausugs to "look closely at the advantages and disadvantages of the Balikatan and let us not allow such military exercise to become a divisive factor in our unity."

Southern Command chief Maj. Gen. Roy Kyamko on Friday declared that majority of Tausugs wanted the Balikatan.

He said the province's 17 mayors had signed a manifesto expressing their support for the war games.

Ahmad Jamad, 77, a World War II veteran and resident of Panglima Estino, said the Americans were not the evil that some people want the Tausugs to believe.

"I was with the Americans before, fighting alongside them against the Japanese occupation. They were good to me," Jamad said.

Hadji Timbasal Abduhalim, another war veteran from Tapul island, said the presence of US forces in Sulu might just speed up the processing of benefits of war veterans like himself. *Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Court junks graft case vs Danding

THE SANDIGANBAYAN has declared "null and void" a 1989 graft case filed against businessman Eduardo "Danding" Cojuangco in connection with his acquisition of shares in the Bulletin Publishing Corp. allegedly in behalf of the late dictator Ferdinand Marcos.

The anti-graft court said the Presidential Commission on Good Government had erred in assuming two independent functions in the prosecution of the case—gathering the evidence and then conducting the preliminary investigation.

The PCGG should have left the preliminary investigation to "the proper investigating official," mainly the Office of the Ombudsman, the Sandiganbayan's Fifth Division said in an eight-page resolution.

The case is not yet considered dismissed, however, as the court said the PCGG should transmit the case records to the Ombudsman "for appropriate action."

The ruling quoted an earlier Supreme Court decision dismissing two other graft cases against Cojuangco in connection with the controversial coconut levy funds.

In the quoted jurisprudence, the SC found the PCGG's performance of the dual roles to be "arbitrary and unjust."

The 1989 case sought the forfeiture by Cojuangco of his shares in the Bulletin Publishing Corp., which he had allegedly acquired for Marcos between 1973 and 1985. At the time the case was filed, Cojuangco was said to control 54 percent of the company. *Volt Contreras*

Faithful mark Feast of Mercy

THIS SUNDAY the Divine Mercy Channel, the only Catholic TV network in Asia, will cover the day-long celebration of the Feast of Mercy at the Lee Erwin Theater, Ateneo de Manila grade school. There will be three Masses—12:30 p.m., 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. —healing sessions and confessions.

The Feast of Mercy honors St. Mary Faustina, who is believed to have received extraordinary promises from the Lord. On this day, the faithful will be granted plenary indulgence by Pope John Paul II, according to the Vatican.

The day should be marked by solemnity, extolling the mercy of God, confessing one's sins, receiving Holy Communion and performing works of mercy, the Vatican said.

St. Faustina's 600-page diary, "Divine Mercy in my Soul" was declared by Pope John Paul II to be the Word of God. It contains at least 14 passages in which Jesus Christ asks that a Feast of Mercy be officially established in the Catholic Church.

Christ reportedly told Faustina in the mid-1930s: "'This feast emerged from the very depths of My mercy, and it is confirmed in the vast depths of My mercies . . . It is My desire that the first Sunday after Easter be solemnly celebrated . . . I desire that the Feast of Mercy be a refuge of sinners.'"

The Feast of Mercy, a private devotion since 1935, spread like wildfire worldwide and was declared an official feast of the Catholic Church during the canonization of St. Faustina in 2000.

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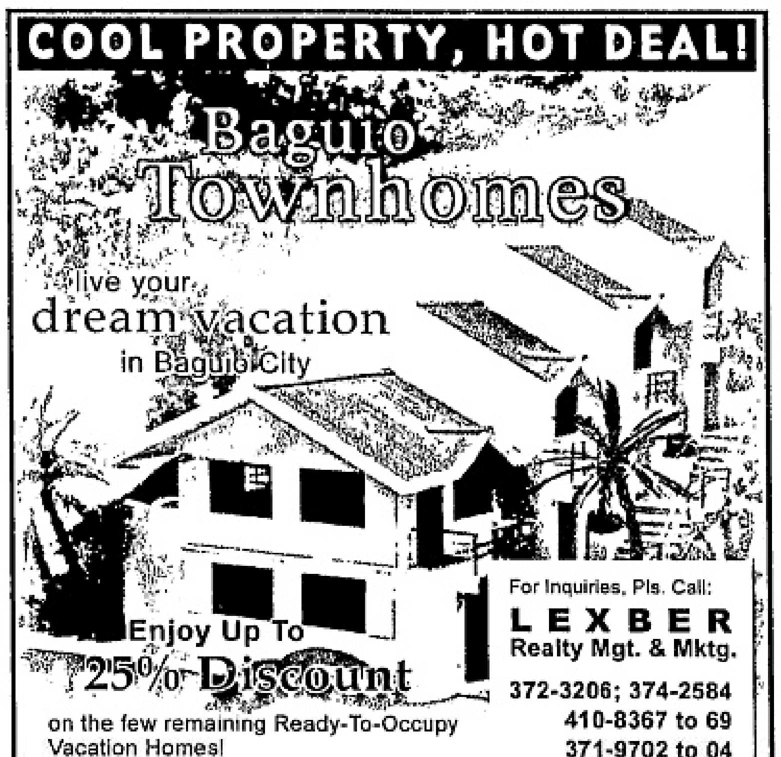

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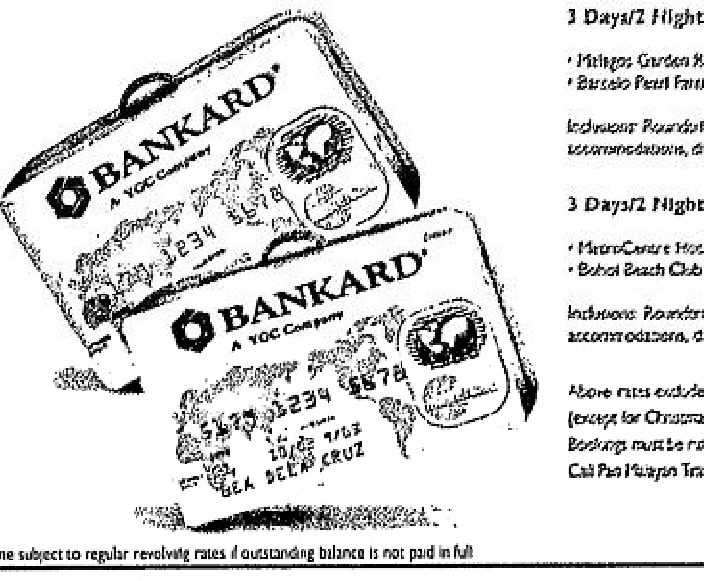

Plan to sell RP properties in US hatched two years ago

By Norman Bordadora

THE PLAN to sell some of the country's properties in the United States was hatched some two years ago when Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. was the foreign affairs secretary and proposed the sale of at least two pieces of real estate in Houston and Seattle.

Alberto del Rosario, Philippine ambassador to Washington, said that top officials had deliberated on Guingona's proposal to sell the US assets and that it was decided that the Houston and Seattle properties had to go.

The INQUIRER tried to contact Guingona but he was in an "emergency meeting" at press time.

In an interview, Del Rosario said that non-performing real estate assets like the Houston and Seattle properties, along with the old Philippine Chancery in Washington, were being prioritized in the government's bid to dispose of its expensive "gray elephants" in the US.

"(These pieces of property) are in a state of accelerated deterioration due to the absence of maintenance funds. Our view is that retaining them would be grossly disadvantageous to the government," Del Rosario said.

The ambassador said that embassy officials would be even more liable administratively if they insisted on retaining these properties than if they were to work to dispose of them properly.

"Unless the government is prepared to immediately allocate the enormous outlays for the total overhaul and renovation of these properties and their subsequent maintenance, holding on to them would result in greater losses and may be construed as gross negligence," he said.

As to criticism that selling these assets at a time when the real estate market in the US was soft and prices low, Del Rosario said that on the contrary the same market conditions would be advantageous to the government.

"While the real estate market may be soft at this time, it would still be prudent for us to evaluate the mounting losses and the heavy costs of rehabilitation as compared to the lower sales proceeds to be obtained in the current market," Del Rosario said.

With the proceeds from the sale, the government would then be "in an advantageous position" to acquire more suitable properties that it requires from the same soft market, he said.

Del Rosario said the chancery in Washington, the former consulate residence in Houston and the vacant lot in Seattle must be sold immediately because of their advanced state of deterioration and idleness.

'Angry' FVR denies he is running; raps dynasties, turncoats

BAGUIO CITY—Miffed that his name continues to be floated in connection with the 2004 presidential elections, former President Fidel V. Ramos said Friday amendments to the Constitution should be fast-tracked in order to rid Philippine politics of dynasties and turncoats who are nothing but opportunists.

Ramos, Lakas-CMD chair emeritus, was reacting to an INQUIRER report that said administration party members were working for his inclusion in the list of Lakas presidential candidates. The item quoted former Ifugao Rep. Gualberto Lumauig, a member of the Lakas media bureau.

"I never authorized Lumauig to say those things . . . and he is in no position in the Lakas bureaucracy to make those (calls). *Gasgas na iyang* story *na iyan* (That story is old hat)," he told the INQUIRER.

Addressing the annual assembly of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc. (Seipi), a 100-company alliance of electronics exporters, Ramos said the 1987 Constitution frowns on political dynasties and turncoatism, but this policy is not explicitly stated. Instead, the Constitution relied on Congress to come up with an enabling law.

But no congressman since the 8th Congress to the present 12th Congress has filed such a measure because it would destroy political careers, Ramos said.

He said politicians "bypass" the three-consecutive terms limit enshrined in the 1987 Constitution by "getting their wives, children and in-laws to run for the position."

"This breeds not only graft and corruption but elitism and greed," he said.

Turncoatism, he said, also affects governance because flimsy party loyalties often tempt aspirants to bargain their candidacies for party war chests. He said these accommodations are repaid once the politician wins an election.

Ramos has repeatedly declared he is not interested in running for president again. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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Plan to sell RP properties in US hatched two years ago

By Norman Bordadora

THE PLAN to sell some of the country's properties in the United States was hatched some two years ago when Vice President Teofisto Guingona Jr. was the foreign affairs secretary and proposed the sale of at least two pieces of real estate in Houston and Seattle.

Alberto del Rosario, Philippine ambassador to Washington, said that top officials had deliberated on Guingona's proposal to sell the US assets and that it was decided that the Houston and Seattle properties had to go.

The INQUIRER tried to contact Guingona but he was in an "emergency meeting" at press time.

In an interview, Del Rosario said that non-performing real estate assets like the Houston and Seattle properties, along with the old Philippine Chancery in Washington, were being prioritized in the government's bid to dispose of its expensive "gray elephants" in the US.

"(These pieces of property) are in a state of accelerated deterioration due to the absence of maintenance funds. Our view is that retaining them would be grossly disadvantageous to the government," Del Rosario said.

The ambassador said that embassy officials would be even more liable administratively if they insisted on retaining these properties than if they were to work to dispose of them properly.

"Unless the government is prepared to immediately allocate the enormous outlays for the total overhaul and renovation of these properties and their subsequent maintenance, holding on to them would result in greater losses and may be construed as gross negligence," he said.

As to criticism that selling these assets at a time when the real estate market in the US was soft and prices low, Del Rosario said that on the contrary the same market conditions would be advantageous to the government.

"While the real estate market may be soft at this time, it would still be prudent for us to evaluate the mounting losses and the heavy costs of rehabilitation as compared to the lower sales proceeds to be obtained in the current market," Del Rosario said.

With the proceeds from the sale, the government would then be "in an advantageous position" to acquire more suitable properties that it requires from the same soft market, he said.

Del Rosario said the chancery in Washington, the former consulate residence in Houston and the vacant lot in Seattle must be sold immediately because of their advanced state of deterioration and idleness.

'Angry' FVR denies he is running; raps dynasties, turncoats

BAGUIO CITY—Miffed that his name continues to be floated in connection with the 2004 presidential elections, former President Fidel V. Ramos said Friday amendments to the Constitution should be fast-tracked in order to rid Philippine politics of dynasties and turncoats who are nothing but opportunists.

Ramos, Lakas-CMD chair emeritus, was reacting to an INQUIRER report that said administration party members were working for his inclusion in the list of Lakas presidential candidates. The item quoted former Ifugao Rep. Gualberto Lumauig, a member of the Lakas media bureau.

"I never authorized Lumauig to say those things . . . and he is in no position in the Lakas bureaucracy to make those (calls). *Gasgas na iyang story na iyan* (That story is old hat)," he told the INQUIRER.

Addressing the annual assembly of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc. (Seipi), a 100-company alliance of electronics exporters, Ramos said the 1987 Constitution frowns on political dynasties and turncoatism, but this policy is not explicitly stated. Instead, the Constitution relied on Congress to come up with an enabling law.

But no congressman since the 8th Congress to the present 12th Congress has filed such a measure because it would destroy political careers, Ramos said.

He said politicians "bypass" the three-consecutive terms limit enshrined in the 1987 Constitution by "getting their wives, children and in-laws to run for the position."

"This breeds not only graft and corruption but elitism and greed," he said.

Turncoatism, he said, also affects governance because flimsy party loyalties often tempt aspirants to bargain their candidacies for party war chests. He said these accommodations are repaid once the politician wins an election.

Ramos has repeatedly declared he is not interested in running for president again. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*

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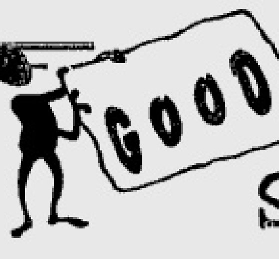

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BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Loneliness without the romance of a rescue

From page A1

tor, you can't trust anyone. If it helps alleviate the guilt, nobody trusts you either.

Let's take a walk down the streets of Hong Kong—ground zero if you will—and check out the scene on the ground.

You find yourself within kissing distance of a dream face that is matched by charming manners. Normally you would have already decided to call in sick tomorrow. Times are different. It's a mean heart-breaker that both of you know very well that this is as good as the evening will, or more sadly, should get. One more irresponsible inch closer and two lives are put on the line. There will be no kissing, not to mention the ultimate evening clincher—sharing the night—not even a sensual invitation of two warm hands clasped lightly underneath a bar table.

It took Hong Kong the better part of three decades to import, modify, fine-tune and perfect the western bar scene. SARS needed a few miserable weeks to reduce the trophy of that achievement into rubble. SARS took the promise out an adventurous Lan Kwai Fong evening. To far too many of us, this means loneliness without the romance of a rescue.

Dining-out rituals, protocols

These days, restaurants take your phone-in dinner reservation as a crank call. Take a look around—reservation is a nostalgic concept. Calling ahead before going out to dinner is still in—to confirm that the restaurant is still open for business. Dining out is out. Anything out is out.

Forget the a la carte menu. No prudent chef is crazy enough to stock exotic items on the off-chance that a discerning patron works up the nerve to brave the forbidden journey from the secure bunker of home to his joint. We get SARS-savvy and ask the chef to "whip something up." On a brighter note, wines are not affected and diners continue to enjoy the finest.

The mask

Forget the $900 new bluish gray suit with a hint of purple under white lights. It clashes with the surgical face mask. Everything clashes with the dreaded mask, a fashion disaster. Of course, the mask is not for your protection. It is common courtesy extended to those who are too shy and bar-groomed for outright refusals to social contacts. Without one, you'd be lucky to get a wink and a smile for the whole evening.

Masks on faces of the service crew in all walks of work give beauty queens a rare glimpse of what life without talent would have been like. Perhaps this levels the playing field a bit. I am not sure it is safe to approach a lady and within five small-talk exchanges, boldly ask her if she could take it off. Interesting to see what results a woman gets with the same approach to a hunk of fancy.

Unfamiliar courtesy

The courtesy in the waiting lines at boarding gates in the HK International Airport is utterly flattering to the city. SARS actually succeeded where years of education had failed miserably to achieve—rid society of the familiar pushing and shoving. I have to confess I do miss it a little.

Now I actually have to consciously move my feet, one at a time, to keep up with the person in front. Nobody wants to sneeze in public. That's social suicide—second only to wearing green lipstick and bleached fangs. Someone in the line let loose a loud sneeze whose magnitude betrays the tenacity of its futile restraint. Lord knows he did try his very best to hold it back. There is a bonus. Before he knows it, he has passed everyone and is up next. Everyone lined up ahead of him had left the line.

Business is hurting, as everybody knows. Swaying insidiously in uncertainty are the dominos in a spiral chain reaction potentially even more deadly than SARS. It is the impact on the economy, or even more threatening, its perception that drives the nail into the coffin. Not to worry. The behavior of the economy is cyclical and business will always bounce back. The impact is much farther reaching than that.

Compassion compels us to forgive the introduction of croissants, highlight of the new cost-cutting program, in place of the once much heralded in-flight meals of this fabulously successful airline. Personally, I think the CX management team deserves kudos for the quick move to tell us, passengers and shareholders alike that the company's bottom line is brightly lit on their radar screen. Last thing I want to do is to fly with a crashing airline. But look at the far-reaching effects of SARS. Who would have guessed that this little virus is changing the stuff airlines put on our plates?

Public humiliation

By the time you reach departure floor on HK International Airport, you'd figure you'd made it, that the ordeal is over and you have once again beaten the odds.

When was the last time you allowed something into your earlobes and didn't enjoy it? Being probed in the ear for a temperature check in public is a humiliating experience. I put up with it as graciously as I could, or else I wouldn't make it to the check-in counters. I couldn't help reminiscing on how good I once had it all. I miss the dignity of walking unchallenged up to a counter and saying, "CX901 to Manila, aisle seat windows row please."

To sum up, the following are the direct/indirect impact of SARS on the lifestyles of ordinary HK residents:

(Listed in no particular order of humility)

- The old tradition of a polite Chinese nod accompanies the "how are you?" in place of the now-defunct custom of a handshake.
- Parents spend unprecedented amount of time with their children.
- Children suffer from fatigue having to work overtime to entertain cooped-up parents.
- Businesses chalked $2 billion in losses, and counting.
- Noise pollution threatens as a real social problem as mahjong climbs back to grace.
- Six HK/Manila flights a day for Cathay Pacific now down to just two.
- Wives panic in unfamiliar quarters at home—the kitchen—as husbands pretend to enjoy home cooking.
- Husbands remember anniversaries and wives' birthdays.
- Ten major restaurants called it quits.

Firms protect their assets

From page A1

spreading but they would also serve as a good reminder to the public on the seriousness of the epidemic.

Dee said the PCCI has likewise encouraged its members nationwide to hold information seminars among their employees to explain the SARS virus, how it is transmitted, and what are the best means of protection.

SMC

Food and beverage giant San Miguel Corp., one of the largest employers in the country, has announced a SARS-prevention strategy that is likely to be duplicated in other companies nationwide.

In a statement, SMC said it has issued N95-type respiratory masks to all its employees and guests entering its plants and offices.

All SMC employees are required to undergo body temperature checks similar to those conducted in the country's international airports and ports of entry.

Housing facility

The company has likewise set up a SARS screening procedure where returning employees and guests who come from SARS-infected countries would be given a temporary housing facility for a mandatory 10-day quarantine; implemented an intensive information campaign to prevent SARS; and opened a hotline to handle inquiries and referrals.

The same precautionary measures were expected to be adopted by SMC's subsidiaries Purefoods Corp., La Tondeña Distillers Inc., Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc.

No trips

Dee said that most garments and electronic firms, whose export-oriented businesses require frequent travels among its top officers, have adopted a moratorium on trips to SARS-infected countries.

Toyota Motor Philippines Corp., the country's leading vehicle assembler, said top managers had to resort to more teleconferences with their counterparts from Asean and Japan in the last few weeks to facilitate their transactions.

Aside from masks and information blitzes, former Trade and Industry Secretary Jose Concepcion Jr. has taken a different strategy in handling SARS. Concepcion said Barangay Forbes has agreed to give an anti-flu vaccine to its constituents at P400 per shot or 16 percent off its standard price of P475. Concepcion said the vaccine would be effective for one year.

PLDT

Philippine Long Distance Telephone Co. spokesperson Ramon Isberto said it would be safe to assume that overseas calls have surged in the past few weeks due to concern from OFWs and relatives from abroad on the SARS situation in the co[illegible] Although he admitted it's difficult to determine whether a rise in the volume of overseas calls would be traced to concerns over SARS.

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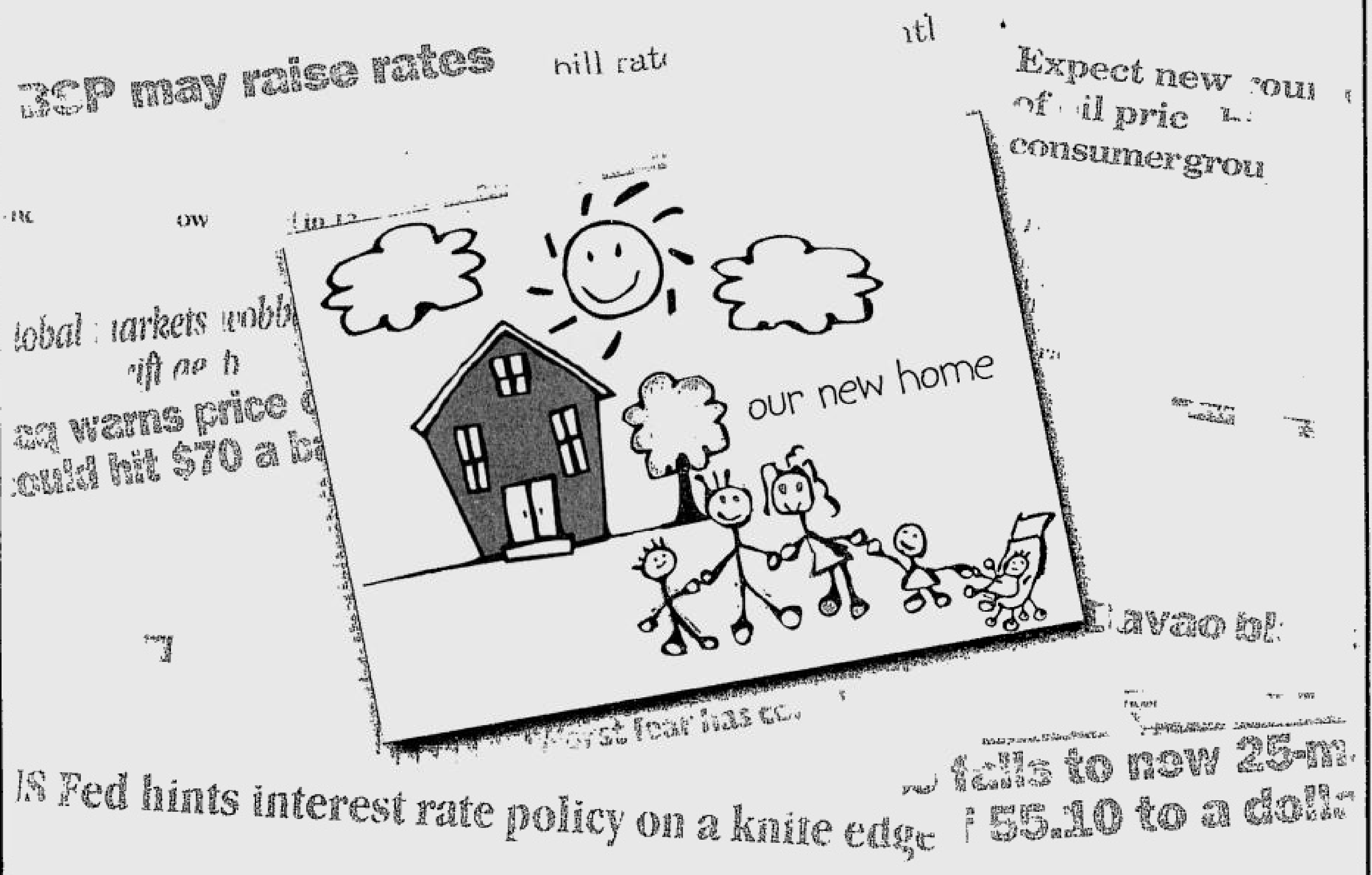

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Rampage

EDITORIAL

IN A 24-HOUR period last week, from Wednesday afternoon to Thursday morning, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front struck thrice in two provinces. The attacks left 19 persons dead.

Also on Thursday, President Macapagal-Arroyo launched her P5.5-billion Mindanao National Initiative at the 1st Muslim Summit in Manila, but the good intentions were all but drowned in the backwash of grim statistics. Four civilians were killed in Carmen, North Cotabato, in what the MILF acknowledged to be an assassination. Ten civilians and one rebel were killed in Kolambugan, Lanao del Norte. And two civilians and two rebels were killed in Maigo in the same province. Some 20 civilians, mostly passengers stranded when the rebels seized portions of the national highway that runs through Lanao del Norte and connects the capital town of Tubod with the industrial city of Iligan, were also injured. Most chillingly, the MILF temporarily held more than 300 people hostage when the military counter-attacked. At least three police officers remain in captivity.

We condemn these attacks in the strongest possible terms. It seems likely that the offensives in Lanao del Norte, begun an hour apart, were aimed at a takeover of Maigo, in the same way that the rebels had briefly occupied Kauswagan three years ago.

An ex-hostage of the MILF force—led by Adburahman Macapaar, also known as Commander Bravo—described the Lanao attacks as "plain banditry." Armed Forces Chief of Staff Gen. Narciso Abaya said he saw the attacks as an extortion try that had spiraled into an attempt "to disrupt the Palarong Pambansa." Defense Secretary Angelo Reyes read the attacks as an attempt to embarrass national and local government officials, in view of the national games slated to start on May 4 in Tubod. The President had the direst view: She denounced the attacks as a "travesty of the peace process."

"The perpetrators are terribly mistaken if they think they can obtain concessions in the peace talks by this dastardly act," the President said.

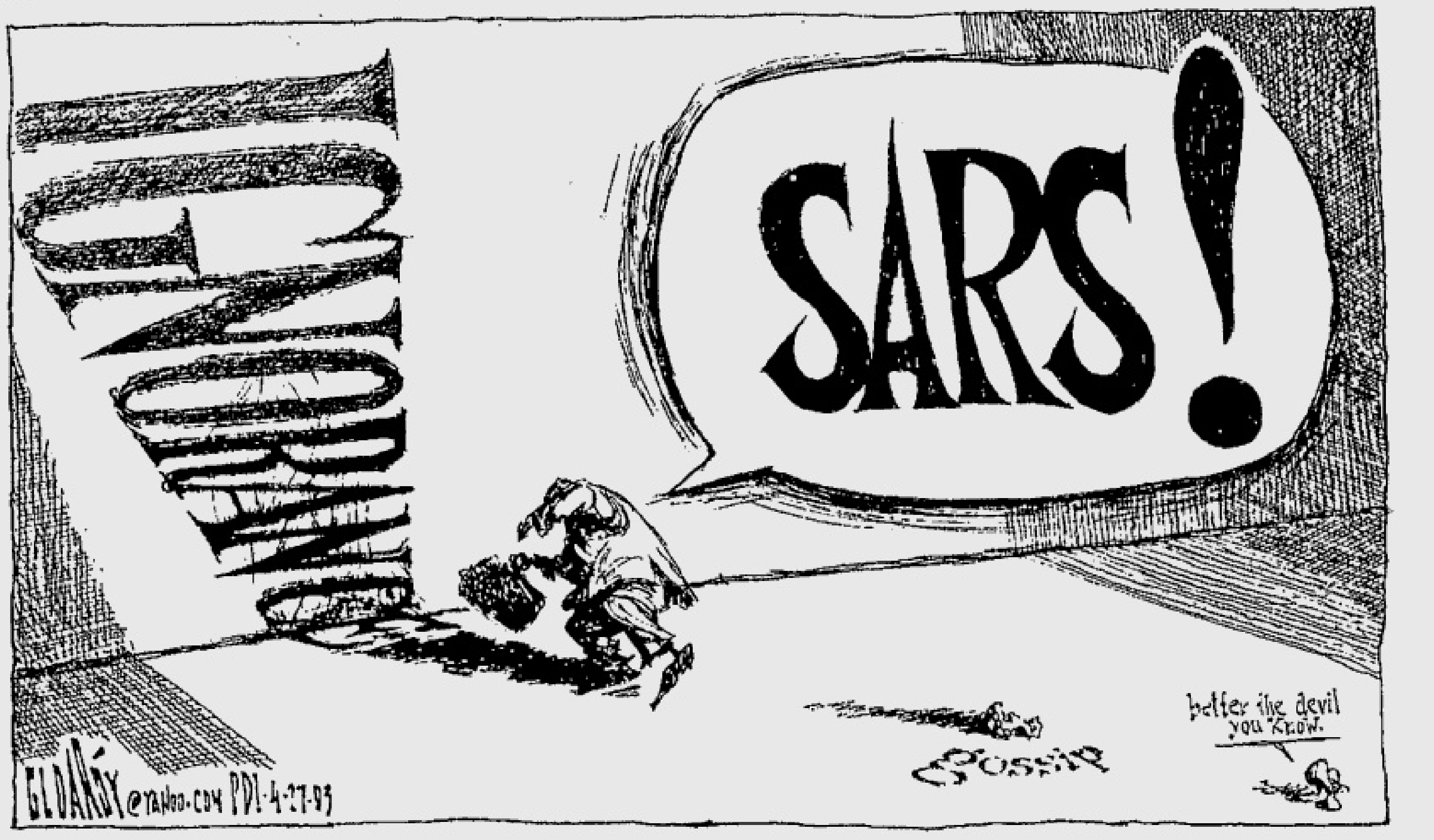
Dastardly as the attacks have been, the Macapagal administration is not completely without fault. On Thursday, the President ordered a three-pronged military response, including "active defense of the affected communities." She was merely acting true to form.

The concept of "active defense" is new in the Philippine context; it entered the public discourse only after a massive one-week AFP offensive overrun MILF positions in the so-called Buliok complex in North Cotabato and Maguindanao last February. Despite the unequivocal victory, fighting continued in the area and even beyond. Pressed, the President justified the continuing military action, calling the strategy one of "active defense."

Mocking the President, the MILF has appropriated the new doctrine. Last Thursday, rebel spokesperson Eid Kabalu also justified the Lanao del Norte attacks as "active defense." The concept means fighting outside the perimeter, the better to defend a given position. In reality, as both the military and the MILF have shown, it means bringing the fight to the enemy. It is a defense only in the loosest possible meaning of the term.

But the MILF is not hitting targets only to prove it can play Malacañang's own rhetorical game. The rebels are hitting back, mounting guerrilla assaults, because they have been forced to, because the Buliok offensive drove them into a corner. Reyes and his generals have told the Inquirer, in frank discussions, that they believe the acts blamed on the MILF since the fall of Buliok—the bombings in Davao City, the downing of power transmission towers, the skirmishes in four provinces—would still have been committed even if Buliok had not fallen.

We do not agree. We think that the relative lull in armed encounters between the AFP and the MILF before Buliok, though marred by violations of ceasefire terms on both sides, was more conducive to peace talks than what we have now, a cynical state of "active defense." We think that the spike in violence since February is directly linked to the MILF's loss of Buliok. We think, finally, that the military, while paying lip service to the peace process, overestimated its capacity. The result is a separatist rebellion that is unshocked, unawed, and on a rampage.



Jesus and Mary Magdalene

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

AS in years past, I read through the Gospels last Holy Week for the renewal of my faith and the remission of my sins. As before, the same unanswered question nagged me: Who was Mary Magdalene?

Next only to the Virgin Mary, she played the most prominent role in the life and death of Jesus Christ.

She was probably the adulteress whom the irate mob wanted to stone to death according to the law of Moses. Jesus saved her life by saying, "Let him who is without sin cast the first stone."

It was that incident that must have changed her wanton ways and made her a devoted follower of Jesus.

In all the four Gospels, Mary Magdalene was among the women who grieved at the crucifixion and death of Jesus Christ.

In Matthew, "Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb" and bring spices to Jesus on the third day of his burial.

In Mark, "after Jesus rose from death early on Sunday, he appeared first to Mary Magdalene, from whom he had driven out seven devils."

In Luke, the women who went to Jesus' tomb that Sunday morning were "Mary Magdalene, Joanna, and Mary the mother of James."

In John, "early on Sunday morning, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene went to the tomb and saw that the stone had been taken away from the entrance... She told the other disciples, who came running to the tomb...

"Mary stood crying outside the tomb..." Then she saw two angels dressed in white who asked her why she was crying. "They have taken my Lord away," she said, "and I do not know where they have put him."

"Then she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was he. 'Woman, why are you crying?' Jesus asked. 'Who is it that you are looking for?'

Thinking he was the gardener, she said, 'If you took him away, sir, tell me where you have put him and I will go and get him.'

Jesus said to her, "Mary!" And she turned toward him and said, "Teacher!"

In all the four Gospels, Mary Magdalene went that Sunday to the tomb of Jesus and found it empty. And according to Mark and John, it was before Mary Magdalene that the Risen Lord first appeared.

Not before his mother the Virgin Mary, not before Peter and the rest of the disciples, but before Mary Magdalene, the reformed sinner.

Was there a special relationship between Jesus Christ and Mary Magdalene?

Many people may have asked this question but only in their mind for fear of being called sacrilegious. I will openly ask it, though, but in good faith, without mockery or blasphemy, but in a spirit of reverent curiosity.

I am sure there was a strong spiritual bond between Jesus and Mary Magdalene, but was there more? Could there have been a personal and physical attraction between them not unlike the sensual feelings of a man and a woman for each other?

Jesus Christ came into this world as a human being with all the natural emotions of a man, including love and hate. Remember his anger with the merchants who made the Temple of God "a den of thieves"?

He was a mortal man who carried the heavy Cross to Golgotha and suffered the agony of his crucifixion. And did he not, before his death, make the plaintive human cry, "My God, my God, why has thou forsaken me?"

For her part, Mary Magdalene led a prurient life before she was converted. Her passion was for the flesh before she saw the true path. Could there have been a residue of her old ways that made her look at Jesus not with total piety but with a spark of earthly love?

If we are to believe the image the Renaissance painters gave him, Jesus Christ was a handsome man for whom many a woman might have swooned. He was also a forceful and charismatic speaker whose virtue and wisdom added to his appeal. Mary Magdalene could have been like the teeners of today idolizing some rock singer.

Is this irreverent speculation? It is only a closer look, and well-meaning wonderment over the special relationship between Jesus and Mary Magdalene that the four evangelists narrated without malice or concealment.

As a worshipful layman, I recognize the strong spiritual tie between Mary Magdalene and Jesus, who saved her life and soul. But as a romantic, I cannot help imagining, without sinning, that Mary Magdalene loved Jesus not only as her Messiah but as a human being born as the Son of Man.

There must have been something else that made Mary Magdalene go to Jesus' tomb that early Sunday morning to bring him spices. Were they more than gifts of grief? And there must also have been a reason why it was before Mary Magdalene, and not anyone else, that the Risen Lord first chose to appear.

If there be such a thing as platonic love, that must have been the unspoken bond between Mary Magdalene and Jesus. Considering their divinity, I am sure they rejected all mundane temptations and kept sacred the will of God. They were close to each other but only in spirituality and prayer and not physical attraction.

Still they must have made a handsome couple—Jesus with his magnetic eyes and a carpenter's physique, and Mary Magdalene with the courtesan's beauty of face and grace of figure. Too impious a fancy? I will say no more lest I burn in the fires of hell.

Weekend lover

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told that when Joseph of Arimathea, the one who donated the tomb of Jesus, was asked why he gave such a magnificent tomb to someone to be buried in, his reply was: "Okay, He wanted it—but only for the weekend."

* * *

The Gospel today (Jn. 20, 19-30) speaks about the doubt, short-sightedness and even lack of faith pervading among the disciples after Jesus was buried. For them, the road that promised glory had come to an end. Not only that, they were associated with Jesus, and so, their doors were locked, for fear of the Jews.

It was in this atmosphere of gloom and fear that Jesus appeared in their midst, alive as He had promised, and greeted them: "Peace be with you!" It was a greeting of comfort for those who thought they were goners. But more than that, it was a greeting of assurance, understanding and love from Him whom they have abandoned.

* * *

Let us not be quick in chiding Thomas, the doubter. While all the other disciples were already filled with Easter joy after the Lord appeared to them, Thomas, who was not with them, still wanted to see the mark of the nails in Jesus' hands and side. Thomas was being true to himself. He did not want just to get by. He wanted to get real.

How far easier it is to go with the tide and join the crowd. Thomas teaches us that belief is a personal task, a personal decision that each and everyone of us has to personally make even if it involves being persecuted or ostracized. As a text message beautifully put it, "Blessed are they for whom Easter is not a find, but a continuous search; not some fashion, but a real commitment in life."

* * *

The problem with many of us is that Holy Week is just another week that begins on Palm Sunday and ends on Easter Sunday. All the praying, all the sacrifices, all the good works and kindness are buried in the tomb on Good Friday, and what is resurrected on Easter Sunday are the old wicked ways that come back with a vengeance. Instead of joining the crowd that sighs, "Thank God it's all over; back to normal *na naman*," we at Easter should be saying: "Thank you, God. It's not over. It will never be normal again, because of You and the Resurrection."

* * *

Now, more than ever, "Peace be with you" is God's message to all mankind. When will we ever stop killing each other? The message remains the same: Stop hurting. Start loving.

* * *

Last Monday, April 21, the first caller in my 9 p.m. radio program on ZNN Veritas (846 AM band) was a 10-year-old girl who asked me a question that brought tears to my eyes: "Father, what do I do when my parents fight and quarrel? I am very hurt and confused. I don't know which side to take. Can we not just live in peace?"

As Maria spoke, with the soft voice of a little angel, many listeners were touched and were texting their feelings and prayers for this little girl. Her message was so simple and clear: All we want is peace. Please give peace a chance in our family. Papa and Mama, please grow up!

* * *

As we go through life, may we never forget the child that is within each one of us, so full of simplicity and humility, so full of hope, content with little things and happy in spite of deprivations and difficulties. If only we could all become less serious and more joyful, less selfish and more giving, less angry and more loving, then Easter would not just be a weekend, and we would not just be weekend lovers.

* * *

Easter anything bothering you right now? Remember, in every pain, in every sorrow, in every failure, God Easter!

* * *

I would like to share this e-mail I received with all of you who don't want to be just weekend lovers of the Lord:

Everything I need to know, I learned from Noah's Ark...

One: Don't miss the boat.

Two: Remember that we are all in the same boat.

Three: Plan ahead. It wasn't raining when Noah built the Ark.

Four: Stay fit. When you're 60 years old, someone may ask you to do something really big.

Five: Don't listen to critics; just get on with the job that needs to be done.

Six: Build your future on high ground.

Seven: For safety's sake, travel in pairs.

Eight: Speed isn't always an advantage. The snails were on board with the cheetahs.

Nine: When you're stressed, float a while.

Ten: Remember, the Ark was built by amateurs; the Titanic by professionals.

Eleven: No matter the storm, when you are with God, there's always a rainbow waiting.

* * *

I'm inviting you to join me in the "Walk with God to Manaoag" on May 3, Saturday. We will begin the walk with a blessing at 6 a.m. at the Urdaneta Church. The walk is about three hours. We will have continuous rosary and confession along the way. The Mass in Manaoag will be at 10 a.m. Whether you want to ask something, or you want to thank God for something, join us in this walk which we have been doing since 1989 every first Saturday of May and October.

* * *

A moment with the Lord:

Lord, help me to be your lifetime and all-the-time—not just your weekend—lover. Amen.

Carpetbaggers and peacekeepers

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

AFTER THE AMERICAN Civil War (1861-1865) was won by the North, a period of reconstruction followed, with many northerners moving south to take advantage of speculative and commercial opportunities to revive the economy. Some were also sincere, old-fashioned abolitionists wanting to help the Negro in the exercise of his rights brought about by the emancipation of slaves.

Both had one trait in common: they had nothing to tie them down to the South and their only possessions were what was in their bags, which were made of a carpet-like fabric. Thus, they became known as carpetbaggers.

At first, it was the name given to northerners whose only motive for residing in the South was for election to office with the aid of the Negro vote. But gradually the system became a source of plunder and corruption and the term carpetbagger was applied to all northerners. State administrations in the South, protected by US federal troops, were tagged as carpetbag governments.

* * *

In an interview on "Nightline" with Ted Koppel, USAID chief Andrew Natsios reported that out of a total AID appropriation of $1.7 billion for Iraq, up to $680 million had already been earmarked to Bechtel Corp. for reconstruction work. Participation in the bidding process was by invitation only and limited to US companies. As Koppel noted, nothing illegal, nothing improper, just part of the spoils of war.

Terry Jones of The Observer, an English newspaper, has a different spin on the matter. He recently wrote: "Welcome aboard the Iraqi gravy train. Congratulations to all the winners of tickets to take part in the greatest rebuilding show on earth." He then proceeded to mention Kellogg Brown & Root (KBR) and Bechtel Corp. as the companies most likely to profit from reconstruction projects worth about $1 billion. KBR is the construction arm of Halliburton, the oil services company whose former CEO was Vice President Dick Cheney. George Schultz, who was secretary of state under the Reagan administration, is with the Bechtel board, along with retired Gen. Jack Sheehan who sits on the Defense Policy Board which advises the Pentagon.

* * *

While the shooting in Iraq may have died down, we should proceed with caution on pronouncements. The administration has already named an ambassador to a non-existent government in Baghdad. Usually the first step is to recognize the existence of a state or government and then to establish relations by an exchange of diplomats.

The Philippines has also declared that we are sending a 500-member humanitarian assistance mission to Iraq consisting of 300 AFP personnel, 100 PNP members and 100 medical personnel. They are supposed to leave not later than May 15. That's barely three weeks away.

With regard to the medical contingent, they would probably be most welcome as they had always been wherever our doctors and nurses were deployed. Remember Operation Brotherhood in Indochina.

But the uniformed personnel may be a different matter. We may think of them as peacekeepers but what is important is how the Iraqis will react to their presence, knowing we are allies of Washington. Coalition forces were well-equipped and well-supported during the invasion. I dread to think what would happen to our soldiers if they ever get waylaid by a mob of angry Iraqis. In Mogadishu, a peacekeeping force of American troopers was surrounded and massacred by a swarming horde of poorly armed Somalis.

This is not East Timor. This is Iraq, an Arab country which has been invaded by a coalition of mainly Christian nations. This is the region which gave birth to the suicide bomber. They will not look too kindly on foreign armed elements on their soil.

Why the rush to send 400 soldiers and policemen to Iraq? They haven't even figured out how they will pay them. Lt. Gen. Rodolfo Garcia, AFP vice chief of staff and military spokesperson, was quoted as saying: "We are still looking into the matter."

Possibly part of the answer to this intriguing question can be found in a recent Newsweek magazine column by Jonathan Alter. He wrote: "Smugness can kill. It may be satisfying to say 'Screw you' to the United Nations and the United States got away with it during the war. But in an occupation, it's not smart. Which is the more likely target of suicide bombers: a barracks full of American soldiers or a barracks full of peacekeepers from around the world? You'd think we could figure out how to run the occupation without presenting such a fat target… I learned last week that many Army officers wanted to airlift 3,000 MPs (military police) from Europe to protect supply lines and police Baghdad. That would have aided the drive to the capital and helped protect institutions like hospitals and museums once combat forces arrived there. But Secretary Donald Rumsfeld apparently decided: no MPs. They would have had to be replaced by reservists. And if more reservists had been called up in the middle of the war, it would have reinforced the criticism that Rumsfeld hadn't sent enough troops. When the real history is written, we may find out that some of the world's oldest treasures were lost to looters in part because someone at the Pentagon suffers from the oldest of human sins—pride."

While the term "peacekeepers" has a ring of nobility, the truth is, we are going to be part of an occupation force in enemy territory and this changes the complexion of the deployment. Perhaps, Sen. Ramon Magsaysay Jr., chair of the Senate defense committee, should take a closer look at these arrangements to make sure that our men are not put in harm's way unnecessarily.

A lovable mutant

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

PERHAPS the best testimonial for the upcoming "X2" was what my daughter said at the movie's end: "I can't wait to watch 'X3'!"

While many a sequel leaves one yearning for the original, this one, the second installment of the movie adaptations of the popular "X-Men" comics and TV series, truly whets the audience's appetite for more.

Of all the comic-book franchises that have been turned into successful films, "X-Men" really holds the most promise. Its universe is both vast and personal, based on the fantastic framework of a clash between two civilizations—human and mutant—and yet tapping into a rich source of adolescent angst: the desire to be, and yet also the fear of being, different. As producer Lauren Shuler Donner puts it: "It's about misfits, prejudice, about being an outsider and not being understood." It's about being a teenager.

No wonder young people lap it up!

But the "X-Men" franchise also endures because it never seems to run out of compelling characters, the mutants who find themselves equipped with awesome powers which they must control and employ with focus and discipline if these are not to ultimately destroy them and the world. It's the tension between their growing sense of power and their own insecurities stemming from troubled childhoods that keeps us riveted and interested.

* * *

IN "X2," the most interesting new mutant on the block is Nightcrawler, played by Alan Cumming, who was also the creepy Saturninus in "Titus." A circus performer before he was ensnared by the mutant nemesis Stryker, Nightcrawler is a powerful teleporter whose freakish appearance (blue skin marred by self-inflicted "angelic" tattoos and a tail) has made him shy and introspective. He is also, according to Stryker's files (check out the cool website), a devout Roman Catholic who may have studied for the priesthood. And it's this contrast between devilish appearance and ability and absolute, angelic faith that makes Nightcrawler a most intriguing and even lovable character.

Like most other fantasy films, "X2" is replete with special effects and CG gizmos, but it says a lot about its quality that they stay mainly in the background, pushing the story forward. It's the characters one cares about in the movie, and you can't find any more interesting ones than in this franchise—long may it live.

* * *

LISA Macuja Elizalde once said that Ballet Manila divides its timeline between "pre-Fred" and "post-Fred" events. "Fred" is, of course, her husband, businessman Fred Elizalde, who counts among his many concerns radio network dzRH and the Star City entertainment complex.

"Pre-Fred," Ballet Manila was a struggling dance company, formed after Lisa, longtime dance partner Osias Barroso, and most of the young principals from the Philippine Ballet Theatre, decided to break away and pursue their own vision of a dance company dedicated to classical ballet and to the teaching of the Russian "Vaganova" technique and curriculum. It had a home in the Macujas' family residence in Quezon City, but had to scramble for money to pay for performance venues and even studio space.

"Post-Fred," Ballet Manila found not just a new home in the Elizalde compound in Pasay, but also, after some years of renting performance space for their regular season, now enjoys the use of two theaters, Star and the bigger Aliw. The company also keeps to a grueling schedule that includes a full season of the classics and "dance-circus" performances for Star City goers. Then there are the provincial tours that have brought ballet to the masses, with BM's dancers performing on makeshift stages including one constructed out of soft drinks crates!

But if Ballet Manila was enriched by the entry of Fred Elizalde into Lisa Macuja's life, it turns out that Fred's own existence and artistic life gained added dimension and color since the marriage. It is indeed "A Marriage of the Arts," the title of a book dedicated to the couple's artistic partnership.

* * *

THE BOOK, yet another of Fred's grand gift-giving gestures for his ballerina wife, consists of photographs that trace Lisa's growth as a ballet student in Russia, a principal (the first foreigner to be so invited) of the legendary Kirov Ballet, and then as a homecoming ballerina.

The photographs are testimony to Lisa's range and versatility. No other ballerina that the country has produced has had a career like hers. She has danced all of the major roles (as far as I'm concerned she "owns" the role of Kitri in "Don Quixote") as well as taken on more modern, Filipino ballets.

Alongside the pictures of Lisa onstage are photographs of Fred's paintings, some of which antedate his marriage to Lisa. These are the real surprises and treats in the book, for while the public already knows the outlines of Lisa's career in dance, it knows Fred mainly as a businessman. (Though there were all those rumors many years ago about his penchant for sleeping in a coffin.)

It turns out that Fred is quite the Renaissance Man, taking painting lessons during his student days in Harvard. Since his marriage to Lisa, he writes, he has experienced "a new creative Renaissance overwhelming my life," feeling "an outpouring of the creative juices." This outpouring takes the form of paintings that are often bold, jarring splashes of color that fairly throb with life, especially the nudes and the human forms shown—what else?—dancing.

As arranged, Fred's paintings and the photos of Lisa dancing sometimes make witty statements, mirroring each other by movement, color or even theme. In many ways "A Marriage of the Arts" reveals the true state of the marriage: that of two artists who have found in each other both inspiration and enabler.

Panic in a melting pot of microbes

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

BECAUSE of jet travel and mass migration, the world has become quite literally a melting pot of microbes. But because of global communication, it has also accelerated the transmission of a panic more lethal in its consequences than microbes.

The unprecedented movement of large numbers of people across continents has multiplied the risk of transferring microbes to populations that have not developed the antibodies against such diseases. This is how the diseases of white peoples like smallpox, measles and tuberculosis decimated the native populations of the New World, the Pacific islands and Africa. Western colonialism very likely killed more people by the germs it brought than by the weapons it used to subdue the native peoples.

In his fascinating work, "Guns, Germs, and Steel," physiologist Jared Diamond illustrates this: "The Indian population of Hispaniola declined from around 8 million, when Columbus arrived in 1492, to zero by 1535. Measles reached Fiji with a Fijian chief returning from a visit to Australia in 1875, and proceeded to kill about one-quarter of all Fijians then alive. Syphilis, gonorrhea, tuberculosis and influenza arriving with Captain Cook in 1779, followed by a big typhoid epidemic in 1804 and numerous minor epidemics, reduced Hawaii's population from around half a million in 1779 to 84,000 in 1853, the year when smallpox finally reached Hawaii and killed around 10,000 of the survivors."

But the reverse seldom happened, says Diamond. There were relatively few local epidemic diseases awaiting the European colonizers. There was malaria, of course, which, among the tropical illnesses, continues to spell trouble to foreign visitors. But for the most part, the societies the Europeans took over were free from the lethal viruses and bacteria that had plagued much of Europe.

Not anymore. Today in a crowded and mobile world, epidemics can start anywhere and radiate to the destination points of an airline map.

Most epidemics arise from so-called "crowd infectious diseases." Most scientists agree that the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome or SARS virus that first broke out in China's Guangzhou Province late last year could have evolved from animals like ducks or chicken that are kept in pens close to the living quarters of their owners. From there, the virus migrated to Beijing and Hong Kong, and from Hong Kong to Singapore, Taiwan, Toronto, and the rest of the world.

It is perhaps not an accident that the virus would originate from China's most crowded and most economically dynamic centers. These are the nodal points of China's economic miracle that also have the most extensive contacts with the world community. It seems inconceivable that such an epidemic would break out in the poorer western regions of the country, where it would be contained and isolated easily until it runs its course.

Medical progress and the improved health status of people in general may have kept the lethality of SARS low. But the illness remains extremely infectious. Its mode of transfer has not been fully ascertained, and there is still no cure or vaccine for it. It appears that close contact with an infected person is necessary to its transmission, which is why the known cases are tightly clustered in the same apartment block or hospital ward.

What seems clear is that droplets expelled through sneezing and coughing spread the virus. What is not known yet is how long the microbe can remain active outside of its carrier. Scientists claim it will probably not thrive in the air for more than three hours, and especially not in hot weather conditions. Sufferers have been able to recover from its symptoms quite fast and without any special medication. Of course, those whose health condition makes them vulnerable also die quite quickly. But these same people would likely not survive ordinary pneumonia either. It has been reported that as many as 99 people die of flu in the United States every day. One-third of them suffer from acute respiratory problems. Yet these numbers do not command any special attention. They are part of "normal" health statistics.

What has made SARS special is the panic that the mass media have wittingly or unwittingly sown around it. First the virulence of the disease was underscored and contrasted against puny efforts to control its spread. Then the secrecy in which the first outbreak in China was enveloped was highlighted, producing suspicions that the number of actual cases could be higher. But SARS' global debut began when it broke out in Hong Kong and Singapore. These two economic centers are vital hubs of the global economy. These are the basic originating points of the large overseas Chinese population. Their airports are the busiest in the Asian region. Their airlines carry passengers to various capitals in the world. Today they are seen as carriers of microbes as well.

In time, the SARS virus will go the way of all epidemics: it will exhaust itself and die with its last victim. A vaccine will be developed against it. A cure will be found. But it will take a while before the fears are erased.

"When people define their situations as real, they will be real in their consequences," said the sociologist W.I. Thomas. Sneezing and coughing inside a plane will be heard from hereon like a fire alarm in a crowded movie house. People will be avoiding air travel for a while. They will be skipping Singapore and Hong Kong and possibly the whole of Southeast Asia in the next few months. Panic will further weaken the fragile economies of the region, and there will be no vaccine for that except a sober mass media.

* * *

Comments to rdavid@pacific.net.ph

Sobering effects of SARS crisis

COMMENTARY

Raul J. Palabrica

THE DEATH toll from Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome continues to rise. The measures being taken to prevent the disease from spreading seem to be ineffective. Worse, no cure has been found yet for the latest medical scourge to hit the world.

After weeks of enjoying SARS-free status, the Philippines has, with the confirmation of the World Health Organization that Adela Catalon died of SARS, joined the roster of countries affected by that epidemic.

Believed to have started in Guangdong, China, the SARS virus has spread to the so-called First World, or highly developed countries that maintain strict health and hygiene standards. Canada's superior medical expertise and resources have not prevented the epidemic from taking the lives of 14 of its citizens. The United States, United Kingdom, France, Germany, Italy and Sweden have confirmed and suspected SARS cases in their midst.

Had the SARS contagion happened two decades ago, medical experts in Western countries would have had a field day flogging the underdeveloped countries (a.k.a. the "Third World") for unhealthy living conditions or failure to take proper measures to limit the effects of the scourge within their territories. The fear that SARS may become the modern version of the bubonic plague has spurred the international community into working together, rather than pointing accusing fingers at each other, to contain its spread and find a treatment for it. And fast before it gets out of control.

For Hong Kong and Singapore, which have to date 105 and 14 SARS-related deaths, respectively, the epidemic has become a humbling experience. These two financial centers have been engaged for years in a contest of one-upmanship involving who has concluded bigger transactions, operated better facilities for global trade and commerce or maintained higher standards of living.

Adverse effect

They have flaunted their wealth and financial superiority over their less economically developed neighbors. The condescending attitude subliminally shows in the way they treat migrant workers from those countries who accept jobs that their own citizens are too proud to handle. The Chinese amahs of yesteryears, who were treated like members of the families of their employers, did not suffer the same indignities.

SARS has proven that Hong Kong and Singapore have feet of clay too. Their economies are not as impregnable as their citizens thought or assumed them to be. A nondescript, but deadly, virus has turned Hong Kong's commercial areas (which accounts for at least 40 percent of its economy) into ghost towns. The expatriate bankers who make it possible for international currency to freely flow to and from Hong Kong have returned to their home bases to ride out the epidemic. The former Crown Colony will be lucky if it registers a 2 percent economic growth this year.

The Singaporean government has admitted that its financial projections for 2003 would have to be revised to take into account the drastic drop in economic activities in cargo port operations, investment banking and other commercial activities that the island-nation depends on to remain competitive in the global market.

These two former British colonies probably never expected that, for all their material wealth, they would undergo the financial adversities they once thought reserved for their less gifted neighbors. And in what may be considered an unexpected reversal of fortune, reputable travel agencies have, for health reasons, dropped Hong Kong and Singapore from their priority list.

Forced opening

After SARS, Hong Kong and Singapore will not be the same again. Hopefully, they will have learned important lessons in humility. Nobody lives in ivory towers forever.

The SARS epidemic has also resulted in a dramatic change in China's handling of domestic problems that adversely affect the international community. The world's most populous country is very jealous about its independence. It does not brook interference by other nations in what it considers to be its own internal affairs.

In spite of its active participation in global marketing and financial activities, China has opened its windows just enough to allow the entry of new ideas without sacrificing the authority of the Communist Party to be the principal determinant of the future of its citizens. The "foreigners keep out" sign remains in place although in a different form.

When the People's Liberation Army gunned down the students who gathered at Tiananmen Square in 1989 to seek political reforms, China rejected demands from Western countries to make a truthful accounting of that bloody incident. It chose to suffer the consequences of a US-led trade boycott and cutoff of funding from international lending institutions rather than compromise its right to solve its domestic problems free from foreign interference.

The SARS virus has changed that insular attitude. Breaking from its rigid policies on independent handling of domestic problems and confidentiality of sensitive internal information, China allowed the representatives of the WHO to visit its SARS-stricken areas, including military hospitals which are off limits to civilian officials, to determine the true extent of the epidemic.

Precedent-setting

In addition to letting foreigners advise them on how to limit the adverse effects of the disease, the Chinese leadership, in an effort to placate the international medical community, fired two high-ranking government officials who failed to make a timely and accurate report on SARS before it reached epidemic proportions.

By these actions, China opened a little more its windows to the outside world. It has accepted (although grudgingly) the fact that it cannot reap the benefits of international trade and commerce while continuing to be an opaque and rigid country. If it wants the blessing of economic progress brought about by foreign investments to continue to be enjoyed by its people, it has to give up some centuries-old traditions and beliefs.

Today, China has opened up on domestic medical and health problems. Tomorrow, it may give in to long-standing demands by some nations to discuss a sensitive political issue: human rights. A part of the wall that the Chinese government has built around its people to prevent them from being "contaminated" by dangerous foreign ideas has been chipped away. It took a virus to accomplish that feat.

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Please send feedback to jsarmiento@inquirer.com.ph

TALK *of the* TOWN

Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Can the new graduates find jobs?

THE PROSPECTS of employment for fresh college graduates during a SARS outbreak and weak global economy are bleak.

The Commission on Higher Education estimates that some 364,000 students will graduate this year from college.

They will join at least 8.4 million unemployed and underemployed Filipinos in the search for jobs in and outside the country.

Looking for jobs is more difficult this year than the last because SARS has hit the country. The disease is expected to lower the country's economic growth. Already, the tourism and travel industries are reeling from the SARS scare.

The outside world may not offer much relief. The SARS outbreak, the impact of war in Iraq and the sluggishness of developed economies are slowing down growth rates in the region and dimming employment prospects for overseas Filipino workers.

Besides, other countries may put off hiring workers from the Philippines because it is no longer SARS-free.

Jobs in the United States, the world's biggest economy, are also hard to come by. Some 2 million jobs have been lost over the past two years in the United States, which has been in recession since March 2001.

In these hard times, most graduates may not find jobs at all. If they do, the jobs are likely not to be related to their courses.

'I'm afraid to be unemployed'

By Glenda L. Muceros
BA Broadcast Communication
Polytechnic University
of the Philippines, Manila

I'M very excited to have a job, but I know it won't be easy for me to have one.

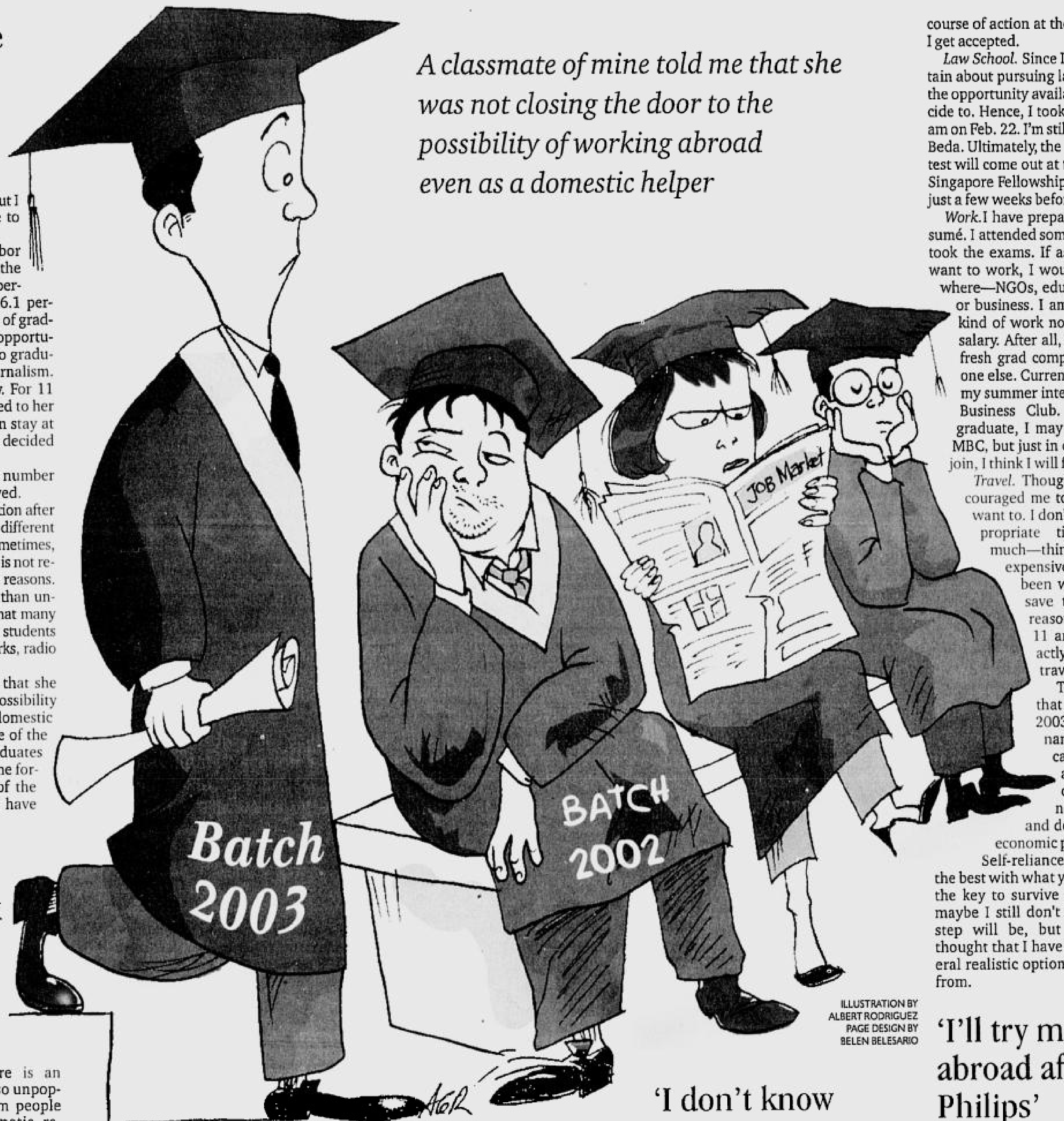
Based on the Philippine Labor Force Survey in January 2003, the rate of unemployment is 10,6 percent and underemployment is 16.1 percent. And as before, there are lots of graduates this year, but are there job opportunities? I remember my friend who graduated last year with a major in journalism. She is working as a cashier now. For 11 months she looked for a job related to her field but found none. Rather than stay at home and be unproductive, she decided to be a cashier.

I am afraid to be added to the number of underemployed and unemployed.

So, I decided not to have a vacation after graduation. I decided to apply to different companies as early as now. But sometimes, I thought of applying for a job that is not related to my course, for economic reasons. Besides, underemployed is better than unemployed. I am open to the fact that many graduating mass communication students will not be hired by the TV networks, radio stations and newspapers.

A classmate of mine told me that she was not closing the door to the possibility of working abroad even as a domestic helper. I can't blame her because of the stories we heard from the graduates last year. Especially now that some foreign investors are pulling out of the country. Many companies also have closed shop.

> *A classmate of mine told me that she was not closing the door to the possibility of working abroad even as a domestic helper*



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'Some UP graduates work in call centers

By Kristine L. Alave
BA Comparative Literature
University of the Philippines,
Quezon City

COMPARATIVE Literature is an unpopular course. It is so unpopular that when I inform people about my major, their automatic response is "What is that? What do you do?" There are only a dozen or so CL majors in my batch. Many of my freshmen blockmates shifted to other courses like economics, business administration and psychology come sophomore year, perhaps realizing that knowledge of literary theories seldom pays the bills. (The low student population is common among humanities courses. Many students are lured by information technology-related courses, which are deemed more lucrative, thanks to the proliferation of computer schools and the government's hype.)

There are jobs available for CL graduates, though. One can apply for a position in advertising, but it's difficult to get accepted. A CL graduate is up against a sea of graduates from advertising, marketing, commerce, mass communication, etc. who spent four years grooming themselves for the same position. Teaching is another option. But because a CL graduate is ill-equipped to face the problems of teaching high school students, it is imperative that one get some teaching units. Working for magazines, publishing houses and newspapers is another plan, but notices for jobs in these fields are few. I was scanning the INQUIRER classified ads last weekend and only saw two ads for editors.

Because literature graduates are not high on companies' preference lists, going straight to graduate school and then applying for a teaching position is a popular option. But the promise of tenure is hard to come by, especially in the University of the Philippines whose budget this year is again slashed. Moreover, a UP salary is measly compared to other universities. A professor of mine once remarked that raising a family on a UP salary alone was impossible. Law school is another promising option and in this field, the possibility of financial reward is greater.

Studying in UP certainly opens doors and makes one interesting to the head of the human resources department. However, there are other UP graduates, not to mention the graduates from De La Salle, Ateneo, and UST, who are just as qualified for that one position. Every year, according to the Commission on Higher Education, the number of graduates increases, making the chances of landing a good job harder. Because of this, many graduates end up underemployed. I know some UP graduates with excellent records who work in call centers because there is nowhere else to go.

As for me, I am currently in limbo. I don't want to go back to the academe, but I have not explored my other possibilities. Right now, I find literary journalism exciting and hope to pursue it so I am gunning for a position in a newspaper or news agency. And because I am not a journalism graduate, I am counting on the two years I spent writing for my school paper to help me land a job.

'I dream of having my own computer business'

By Ma. Pamela E. Parpan
BS Computer Science
De La Salle-Araneta University, Malabon

I AM both eager and scared of what the future holds for me. Eager, because I want to make my family proud of me, and because I want to earn a decent living and establish a name for myself. Scared, because of the difficulties and uncertainties of life.

Before I finished college, I knew that I would not get a job easily. Most of my schoolmates are now working but not with a job related to the course they had taken. This summer, I am planning to apply for a job related to my degree. If I'm not lucky I'd probably just stay at home and wait for opportunities.

As we all know, opportunities in the country are limited. So maybe most of us will be seeking our fortunes and our future abroad. Obviously, our country is facing a lot of crises. Competition is stiff and the work demands are always evolving. We must strive to equip ourselves with new knowledge and to learn new skills.

Nowadays, it is difficult to make a career that lasts one's lifetime. More often than not, people have several careers in their lifetime. In other words, we need to learn to think like a generalist and acquire all the skills that it entails. I myself need to "perfect" my skills in writing, speaking, time management, planning and budgeting. Most of the companies today look for independent and disciplined individuals who are dedicated and driven.

I hope to get a job soon so that I can help my family. I also dream of having my own computer business of any kind as long as it is legal. I may not have a job now, but I know that someday, I hope I'll be the one choosing what job to take.

"Choose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life."—Confucius

'I don't know what my next step will be'

By Ricardo Victor K. Ramos
BA Political Economy
University of Asia & the Pacific
Pasig City

AS my studies in Political Economy are about to draw to a close, I have to see what my next step will be. I have several options, namely pursue foreign studies, study law, start working somewhere, or engage in travel. But before delving into these options, I realized that my perception of the world has changed, making me well-equipped and realistic in my approach.

The university, specifically my course, Political Economy, has made me more aware of what the real world is. When I was in high school, my worldview was simple: my family and friends, school, night outs and travel—a pretty limited and comfortable perspective, I admit. But upon entering the university, I explored other fields that expanded my world. Political Economy, thanks to the rigorous training, forced me to be diligent and resourceful. It made me question everything taught or said. And because Political Economy integrates politics and economics, it gave me a holistic perspective on things, making me flexible in pursuing practically any profession.

Foreign Study. Seeing that there are few job opportunities, I applied for a fellowship program in Singapore. This five-month program may allow me to make productive use of my time, while building some credentials. However, thanks to SARS, I don't think this would be the best course of action at the moment, provided I get accepted.

Law School. Since I am not entirely certain about pursuing law, I wanted to keep the opportunity available just in case I decide to. Hence, I took the Ateneo Law Exam on Feb. 22. I'm still thinking about San Beda. Ultimately, the results of the Ateneo test will come out at the same time as the Singapore Fellowship—early or mid-May, just a few weeks before I graduate.

Work. I have prepared copies of my resumé. I attended some job interviews and took the exams. If asked where I would want to work, I would have to say anywhere—NGOs, educational institutions or business. I am not fickle with the kind of work nor do I expect a high salary. After all, I'm just an ordinary fresh grad competing against everyone else. Currently, my mindset is on my summer internship in the Makati Business Club. Hopefully when I graduate, I may be absorbed by the MBC, but just in case I'm not asked to join, I think I will find a job eventually.

Travel. Though my family has encouraged me to travel, I would not want to. I don't think this is the appropriate time to spend so much—things are getting more expensive, the economy has been weak. I would rather save the money. Another reason is the timing. Sept. 11 and SARS are not exactly what would make travel an easy choice.

These are the times that greatly challenge the 2003 graduates. You name it, and it's practically there: national and international constraints such as illnesses and red tape, and domestic, political and economic problems.

Self-reliance and initiative to do the best with what you have is, therefore, the key to survive the "real world." So maybe I still don't know what my next step will be, but it is a comforting thought that I have made for myself several realistic options that I could choose from.

'I'll try my luck abroad after Philips'

By Ma. Evigene Bañez
Electronics and Communications
Engineering
University of Santo Tomas, Manila

I HAVEN'T applied for a job with any company. I graduated on March 29, 2003 and luckily I have a Philips Semiconductors Scholarship. The company has plans for its scholars. By June, all of their newly graduated scholars will take a semiconductor diploma course at the University of the Philippines in Los Baños while getting a monthly stipend.

After six months of studying, the scholars will be trained inside the company's plant at the Light Industries and Science Park 2 in Calamba, Laguna, and again will be provided with monthly stipend. The company may, or may not absorb us after this. Whoa! I guess most of you will think how lucky we are but this arrangement benefits both parties; they get who they think are the cream of the crop from different schools and let them work for the company at a reasonable amount of compensation while the scholars enjoy the benefit of having a job after graduation.

I just wish that the semiconductors industry would not take a fall, like that in 2000, or else these plans will not push through. Some would think that this is a rare opportunity, to have a great job under a great company right after graduation, but I can say that this is not purely luck. Everything is a product of determination, patience, hard work and other values that come with it.

As of now, I plan to honor my contract with the company and then go out of the country and try my luck abroad where I plan to have my own family.

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CAS Manila

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College of Business Administration (CBA) Manila

DIOMER L. PRIELA
CAS Manila

LOUELLA P. RIEGO DE DIOS
CAS Manila

JONAS E. TRINIDAD
College of Engineering

Cum Laude

BENITO L. ACOSTA
College of Fine Arts

MARIA CARMELA S. BONZON
CBA Caloocan

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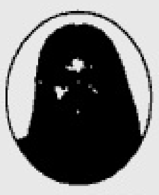
College of Engineering

MARC AN M. CASTRO
College of Engineering

ANNIE RIZA C. CLOMERA
CBA Caloocan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MARIE KRISTINE P. DE JESUS
CCSS

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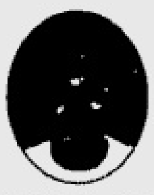
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College of Law

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MARIANITO V. SAGSAGAT
Salutatorian

Institute of Technical Education and Associate in Computer Technology

STEVE JOHN T. SATURNO
Graduate with Honor,
Computer Technician Course (CT)

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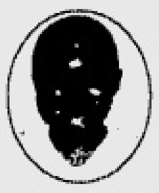
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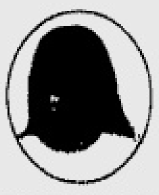
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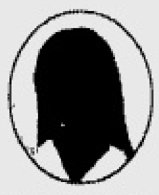
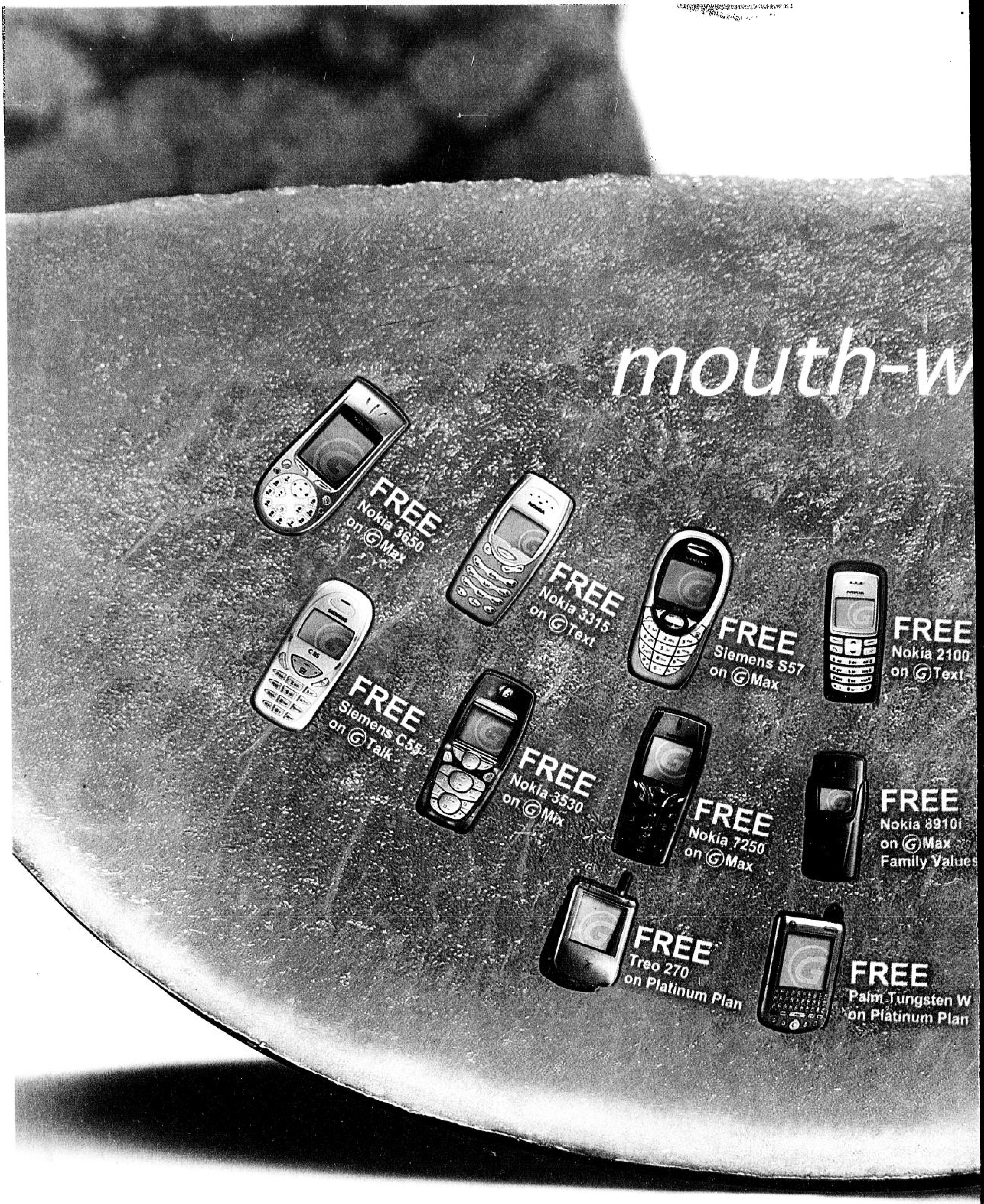

MARY KRISTINE D. MALAZA
3rd Honorable Mention

YEAR 2003 COMMENCEMENT RITES

Elementary and Secondary Laboratory Schools
April 8, 2003 • 3:00 p.m.
UE Theater
Speaker: Dr. FE A. HIDALGO,
Undersecretary, Department of Education

Manila and Caloocan Campuses
April 11, 2003 • 2:30 p.m.
Tanghalang Francisco Balagtas
Speaker: Rev. Fr. RODERICK C. SALAZAR JR., SVD,
President, University of San Carlos

Institute of Technical Education and Associate in Computer Technology
April 22, 2003 • 10:00 a.m.
UE Conference Hall
Speaker: Ms. MA. FE N. FERRIOLS,
President and COO, Beacon Frontline Solutions, Inc.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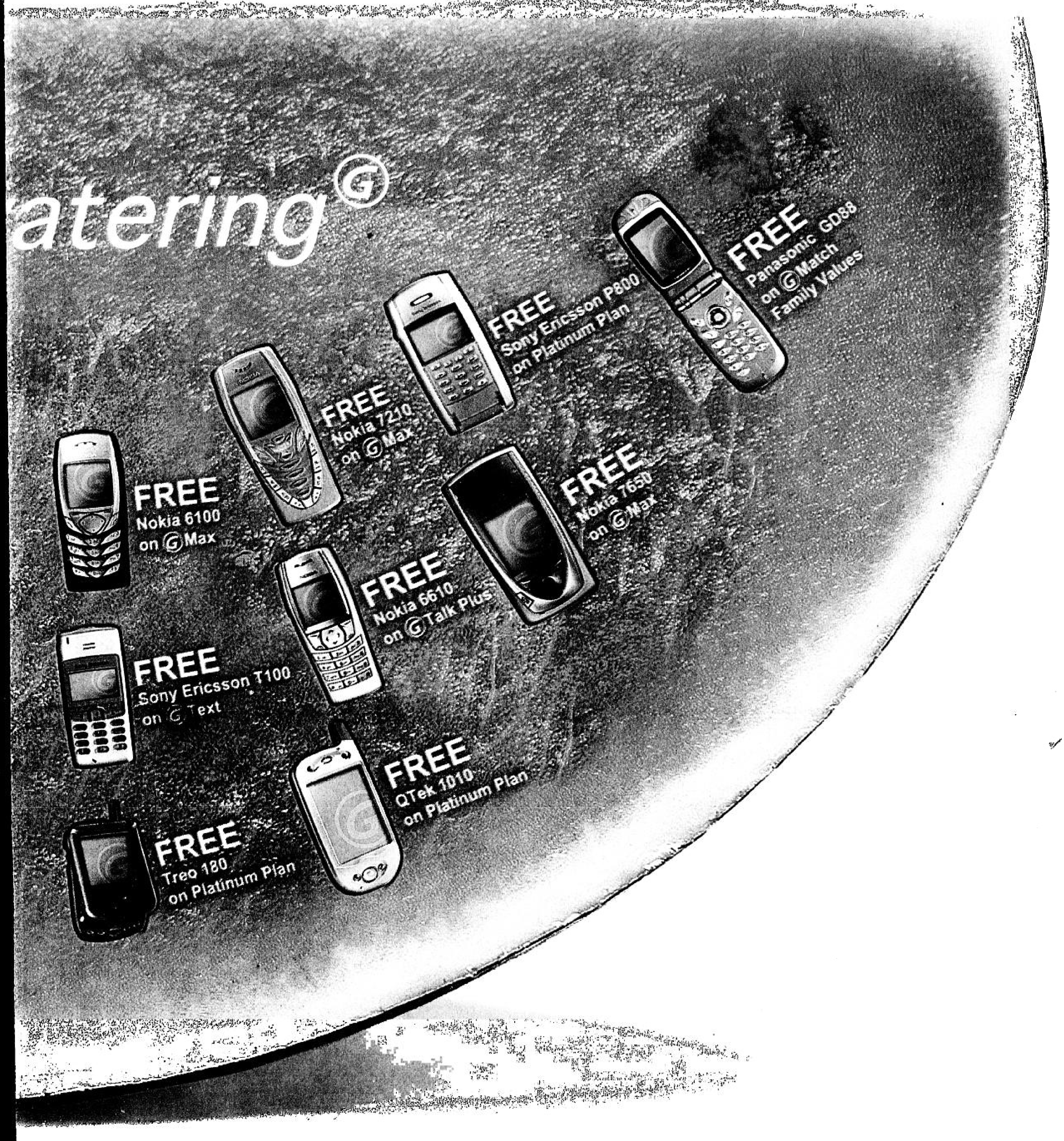
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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Civilians killed in Iraqi ammo dump explosion

ZAAFARANIYA, Iraq—Many Iraqi civilians were believed killed on Saturday when an arms dump blew up on the outskirts of Baghdad, sending rockets flying into houses and sparking a string of further explosions.

With shrapnel, live ammunition and unexploded rockets strewn over a wide area, the precise extent of the damage and casualties was far from clear. One Iraqi medic put the death toll at 40; US Central Command said only that at least six had been killed.

There was also confusion over the cause of the blast, which the US military blamed on unidentified attackers who had fired a flare or incendiary device into the store of Iraqi ammunition.

Local residents said US forces had been packing cars with Iraqi weapons over the last three days and detonating them at the site, but a US officer, Col. John Peabody, denied this.

A local medic travelling in an Iraqi ambulance ferrying casualties to a hospital said there had been many victims.

Asked how many were killed, he replied: "Forty."

The head doctor at Zaafaraniya hospital, Shaker Nasser, said his unit had received six dead and 13 wounded, adding that other hospitals in the capital were also taking casualties.

Some soldiers were also wounded, US Army sergeant-major said at Zaafaraniya, a mixed residential and industrial suburb on the southern edge of the capital.

In Washington, the United States said Friday it will not allow a pro-Iranian regime into Iraq as US forces nabbed a former Iraqi intelligence official linked to an alleged plot to assassinate former president George Bush.

US Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld strongly warned Tehran against interfering in Iraq, echoing mounting US concerns that Iran was using Iraq's majority Shiite community to try to replace Saddam Hussein's regime with an Iranian-style Islamic republic.

"A vocal minority claiming to transform Iraq in Iran will not be permitted to do so," Rumsfeld said.

"We will not allow the Iraqi people's democratic transition to be hijacked by those who might wish to install another form of dictatorship."

US Marines and special forces were sent this week to northeastern Iraq to patrol the border with Iran and prevent infiltrations by Iranian-backed fighters.

Iran has angrily rejected US allegations of "interference" in Iraq.

In Baghdad, meanwhile, a member of Iraq's Shiite Muslim clergy spelled out the conditions for the future government and constitution in Iraq, saying the ruler should be a Muslim and the laws in line with Islam.

Reuters, AFP

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⁺ Source: IDC 2002

US wants to remove UN hold on Iraq oil

UNITED NATIONS—Security Council members next week face a contentious struggle over US demands to get the United Nations out of the multibillion-dollar Iraqi oil-for-food plan and give it only a peripheral role in shaping a new government.

According to Bush administration officials, the United States will introduce a resolution in the council that lifts sanctions against Iraq and calls for a special UN coordinator in what appears to be a low-level consultative role.

In the main, the resolution would end UN control over the lucrative oil-for-food program. Currently Iraq's oil revenues go into a UN escrow fund from which suppliers of food, medicine and a host of civilian goods are paid.

The new measure, according to UN diplomats familiar with the US proposal, would create a development fund with oil revenues and give the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund some oversight duties.

Council diplomats said the main point of contention would be the relationship between any Iraqi interim authority, the United Nations and the United States and its allies.

"At the moment it is weighted heavily in favor of the coalition," said one envoy. The diplomat said the draft resolution, first disclosed by the Washington Post, appeared to be an opening ploy and would probably be whittled down once negotiations began.

Without Security Council endorsement, oil firms are hesitant to sign contracts with an entity that has no international legal standing.

The oil-for-food program was designed to ease the impact of the sanctions, imposed in August 1990 when Iraq invaded Kuwait.

Among the terms for lifting the sanctions, which include all trade and financial dealings, are verification by UN arms inspectors that Iraq has no weapons of mass destruction.

Benon Sevan, the UN official who heads the complex program, said on Friday that the food basket distributed by 44,000 food agents to 90 percent of the population before the war needed to be resumed, if only temporarily.

"Whoever is going to be in charge has to find a way to have that food basket continue," he told a news conference.

One 1999 council resolution even calls for ongoing monitoring by UN inspection bodies after the sanctions are lifted to make sure Iraq does not reacquire dangerous arms.

AN IRAQI Arab woman carries dishes after washing them in a river in Manqubeh village, some 50 km from Irbil, northern Iraq, April 25 AP

But the United States does not want the UN inspectors back, blaming them for not coming up with a "smoking gun" that would have given ammunition to its war plans.

Doing away quickly with 16 resolutions the United States helped craft over the last decade is bound to engender opposition among a majority of council members and force Britain again into the role of seeking a compromise.

Adolfo Aguilar Zinser, Mexico's UN ambassador and the current council president, said on Thursday most members did not want the oil-for-food program stopped abruptly.

"We feel that it should be phased out gradually because we cannot terminate a program that has such significance for such a large proportion of the population," he told reporters.

The proposed resolution, still being drafted, appears to adopt the Pentagon's approach for an omnibus measure that would eliminate most UN controls immediately rather than the State Department's step-by-step approach.

The US measure would also ask UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to appoint a special coordinator, who would work with American officials in Baghdad but apparently have little power beyond humanitarian issues.

Annan so far has refused American requests to do this, arguing that the Security Council would have to make a decision and Washington would have to spell out clearly what the envoy would do. *Reuters*

SHORT OF VICTORY DECLARATION

Bush may soon announce combat over in Iraq

WASHINGTON—President George W. Bush may declare combat in Iraq over next week, even as US troops still hunt evidence of Saddam Hussein's banned weapons and seek clues to the ousted leader's fate, aides said Friday.

Bush has increasingly justified the war on Iraq, which he hinged on Saddam's possession of weapons of mass destruction, on liberating its people, even as he and top aides say the regime may have preemptively destroyed its arsenal.

"Perhaps over time we will find out what drove them to do that. Perhaps it was the fear of actually being discovered, caught redhanded with the very weapons we said they had," said White House spokesperson Ari Fleischer.

As clashes in Iraq become ever more sporadic, Bush may use a rare visit next Thursday to an aircraft carrier at sea, the USS Abraham Lincoln, to say the fighting is over but will stop short of declaring victory outright because key missions remain, said administration officials, who requested anonymity.

One reason for caution is that Bush sees a global picture still rife with challenges—like setting Iraq on course for democracy and winning the global war on terrorism—which make declaring victory premature, they said.

The US leader's speech will look beyond the military triumph in Iraq to those other efforts, said the officials, who refused to say precisely when Bush would speak but acknowledged that the carrier would be an ideal venue.

Bush remains confident that US-led forces scouring Iraq will find evidence of the weapons programs he placed at the core of his case for war, even though Baghdad always denied having them, said administration officials.

And he has repeatedly said that Saddam, whatever his fate since the war began March 19, is now irrelevant to Iraq's future, even as US forces seek to verify "some evidence" that the ousted leader was killed.

Fleischer said Friday that, "at the appropriate time," Bush will say "that the combat phase of the operation has come to a conclusion and that a new phase, the reconstruction of freedom, is beginning."

The US leader has repeatedly said he will only declare that the war is over when he hears that determination from the commander of US forces in the region, Gen. Tommy Franks.

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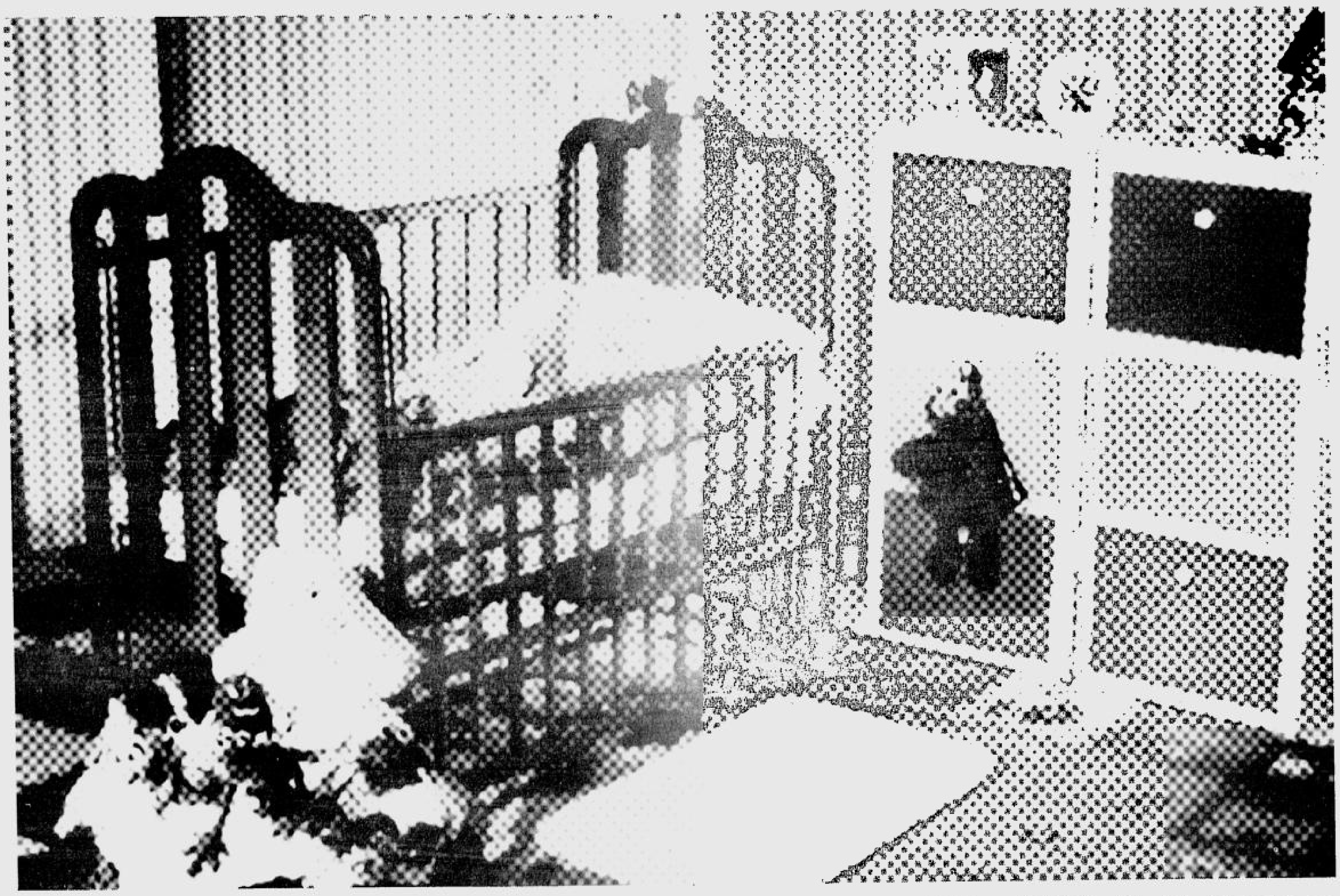

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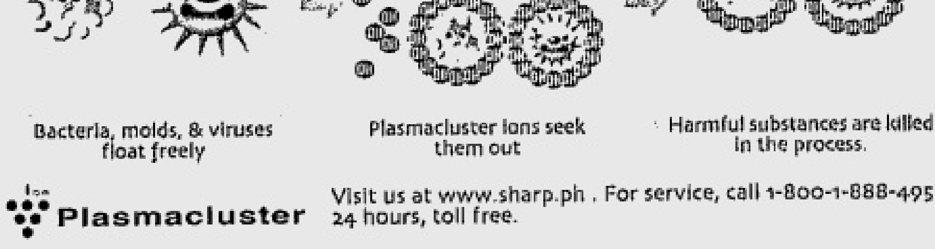

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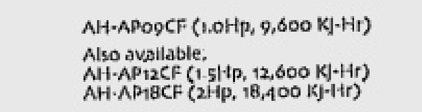

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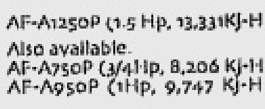

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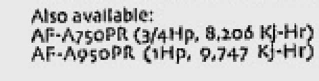

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NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

Please be advised that your favorite **FAMILY'S Brand Sardines** manufactured by Universal Canning, Inc. of Zamboanga City and endorsed by well-loved television and movie personality Kristine Hermosa has finally obtained a **WRIT OF PRELIMINARY INJUNCTION** dated 11 April 2003 from the Regional Trial Court of Manila, Branch 24, in the case docketed as **Civil Case No. 02-102988**, against the identically or similarly branded Family Brand Sardines distributed by Pagoda Philippines, Inc., the label of which bears the entry "Manufactured by Slord Development Corporation, Navotas, Metro Manila."

By virtue of said Writ of Preliminary Injunction, Pagoda Philippines Inc., its representatives, assignees, agents, dealers, and persons acting on its behalf, are enjoined from the following acts:

1. *Advertising, promoting and marketing its canned sardine products bearing the "Family Brand Sardines" label or any other variance thereof; and*

2. *Distributing, manufacturing and selling its canned sardine products bearing "Family Brand Sardines" label or any other variance thereof.*

Violation of the foregoing is cause for **contempt** and may be punishable by **imprisonment** by the Regional Trial Court of Manila, Branch 24.

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US military options for N. Korea risky

WASHINGTON—US officials say they want a diplomatic solution to the North Korea crisis but refuse to rule out military action, with analysts on Friday pointing to options such as air strikes on nuclear facilities, a naval blockade or an invasion using troops already in the region.

But military experts said any military option is fraught with peril because of North Korea's military capabilities—including its admitted possession of nuclear arms and its thousands of artillery guns within range of the South Korean capital Seoul—and the erratic nature of its leadership.

"It's very difficult to assess the value of various military options that the United States has because although we can know their feasibility, we can't know the North Korean response," said analyst Loren Thompson of the Lexington Institute military think tank.

"North Korea is so impulsive and so unpredictable that logic may not apply. Relatively modest measures may bring catastrophic results. It's conceivable that even a naval blockade could result in a nuclear attack by North Korea on South Korea," Thompson added.

Center for Strategic and International Studies analyst Anthony Cordesman added: "The plain truth of the matter is you are talking about a massive theater war against a power which has a very clear historical record of being able to take immense casualties and absorb immense damage to its civil sector with almost no concern for the consequences.

During talks among American, Chinese and North Korean officials in Beijing this week, North Korea admitted that it possessed nuclear weapons. US officials worry North Korea also could produce nuclear material to make more bombs and sell them to enemies of the United States.

A defense official who asked not to be named said, "We hope and believe we can achieve a peaceful diplomatic solution but we're not going to take any options off the table."

With stealth warplanes and satellite-guided weapons, the United States is uniquely capable of staging a limited strike intended to destroy North Korea's nuclear facilities such as those at the Yongbyon nuclear reactor site, analysts said.

A historical precedent for such a mission is the June 7, 1981, air strike by Israel on a nuclear facility near Baghdad aimed at denying Iraq the ability to make nuclear weapons.

Patrick Garrett, an analyst with the Globalsecurity.org military think tank, said the warplanes for such an attack might include the B-2 stealth bomber, flying from Whiteman Air Force Base in Missouri, as well as B-1 and B-52 heavy bombers and the F-117 stealth fighter already in the region.

But Garrett said even an attack narrowly tailored to knock out North Korea's nuclear weapons capability likely would include air strikes intended to neutralize at least 3,000 artillery pieces arrayed a north of the Demilitarized Zone separating North Korea from South Korea.

Garrett said air strikes alone might not destroy North Korean military assets carved deeply into the sides or beneath mountains. Some artillery pieces emerge from protection inside the mountains on rail tracks, ready to fire on Seoul, he said. *Reuters*

КАЗАХСТАН
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RUSSIAN NTV television channel shows US astronaut Edward Lu (right) and Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malenchenko inside the Soyuz TMA-2 after the launch from Baikonur cosmodrome, April 26. AFP

Russia launches first space flight after Columbia crash

BAIKONUR, Kazakhstan—A US and a Russian astronaut blasted off Saturday from the Baikonur cosmodrome in Kazakhstan on the first space flight since the Columbia shuttle disaster three months ago.

The Russian Soyuz TMA-2 rocket, carrying Russian flight commander Yury Malenchenko and US flight engineer Edward Lu, lifted off at 0354 GMT and is due to dock with the International Space Station early Monday.

All US space missions have been grounded since the Columbia shuttle disintegrated and burnt up on entry, killing all seven crew members, on Feb. 1, making Russia the only link with the 16-nation orbital station.

The Soyuz rocket tore up into the sky in a burst of orange giving off clouds of smoke.

Clapping erupted but Lu's brother Rick and fiancee Christine waited tensely as they watched the US cosmonaut on a TV screen as a countdown began toward orbit.

They looked anxiously on as the screen went fuzzy at one point and the image went off.

But nearly nine minutes into the flight, there were smiles of relief and loud clapping as it was announced that the craft had successfully reached orbit. "Oh, boy!" exclaimed Rick.

"It's ecstatic," said Christine. "I'm so relieved after that last stage. I was holding my breath. It's my first launch. The relief is overwhelming." "We're so happy for him. He was so excited about the launch," said Rick. Lu's mother watched the liftoff from mission control in Moscow.

Some three hours into the flight, the crew prepared for the first engine-firing to correct their orbit and reported that all was fine onboard, Nasa officials in Baikonur said after contact with Russian ground control.

Fred Gregory, deputy Nasa administrator, who was present along with other top US and Russian space officials, including Russian Space Agency chief Yuri Koptev, paid tribute to the Russians. *AFP*

Washington 'murder capital' again

WASHINGTON—A surge in murders in the US capital heralds a return to the bad old days of the 1980s when Washington was known as America's "murder capital," local activists said on Friday.

But officials fighting to promote a cleaner, safer image of the city and keep the vital tourist industry afloat amid vague new terrorist threats sought to allay fears, as analysts noted the figures were still far below a 1991 peak.

"Washington, DC, had the highest number of homicides per capita in 2002 of cities with populations of 500,000 of more, making the District again the nation's 'murder capital,'" the report by SafeStreetsDC.com said.

Washington had 262 slayings last year, compared to 658 murders in Los Angeles. But that translated to 48.5 killings per 100,000 people, versus 17.5 in Los Angeles.

Some activists blame the diversion of the local police force to antiterrorism duties downtown for the murder rise.

Criminologists suggest it may also be linked to a rise in drug-related killings and a downturn in the economy.

Using FBI and local police department homicide data, SafeStreetsDC said Detroit, Baltimore, Memphis and Chicago completed the roster of the five most murderous US cities.

A SafeStreetsDC spokesperson said the group had not reviewed earlier data to pinpoint when the capital last held the title.

The city's number of annual killings peaked in 1991 at 482 on the heels of a crack cocaine epidemic and fell almost every year thereafter until it reached 233 in 2001, said James Alan Fox, professor of Criminal Justice at Northeastern University.

Murders so far this year in the US capital total 79, up 22 percent from last year, but criminologists cautioned that the statistics did not give the full story of the 1990s.

"The numbers are much better than they were a decade ago when Washington DC was way out in front, when it was so far above number two that there was no comparison," said Fox. *Reuters*

New kidney, new life for Abadilla 5 death convict

From page A1

confined at the NKTI because he had end-stage renal failure.

Since that time until the transplant, a number of ordinary people had donated money for his medication and twice-weekly dialysis. Those unable to give him anything material offered prayers. And the "running priest," Fr. Robert Reyes, spearheaded a fund-raising campaign last December.

Lumanog's family could not afford to shoulder the costs of medication, dialysis and transplant surgery because Lumanog, following his conviction by a Quezon City Regional Trial Court in 1999, had lost all his businesses.

Recuperation

Lumanog is now able to move around. By tomorrow, all the contraptions attached to his body will be removed, Casanova said.

Marilou, who is scheduled to be discharged from the hospital today, said she was feeling OK although a bit dizzy from the anesthesia.

She said her husband had recovered faster from surgery than she did. "It took a while before I could regain my bearings," she said in Filipino.

The surgery may be over, but that is not the end to Lumanog's worries.

The first seven days after a transplant operation are crucial to the patient because this is the time when his/her body has to recuperate.

Casanova said that after the surgery, Lumanog was given two injections (costing more than P176,000) that would prevent his body from rejecting the donated kidney.

The next three months will be a constant battle against infection, the doctor said.

During this period, Lumanog has to take medicines costing up to P1,000 a day.

And for the rest of his life, he has to take another set of medicines costing up to P500 a day.

Because the medications he is taking are intended to lower his immunity so his body will not reject the donated kidney, Lumanog is vulnerable to any type of infection.

He cannot stay in crowded places and needs to live in a clean environment, Casanova said.

Both Casanova and Dr. Erwin Villar, Lumanog's nephrologist, are set to issue a certification that the patient needs to stay in a place where he is not exposed to germs.

Another crucial battle

Although his health is his first priority, Lumanog—as well as the rest of the Abadilla 5—has another crucial battle he intends to win: an acquittal.

The case is now before the Supreme Court on automatic review.

But Lumanog, through his lawyer Soliman Santos, is not just interested in getting an acquittal. He wants the tribunal to order the QC Regional Trial Court to reopen the case so he can present more evidence that it was the Alex Boncayao Brigade that killed Abadilla.

The tribunal had earlier rejected this motion to reopen the case. Last November, a motion for reconsideration was filed.

Lumanog is also pushing for a reinvestigation by the justice department of the human rights violations case against the police officers who allegedly tortured him and his co-accused while they were investigating Abadilla's killing in 1996.

That case languished at the justice department for six years before state prosecutors declared in 2002 that they could no longer act on the complaint forwarded by the Commission on Human Rights.

The prosecutors said their doing so would mean touching the Abadilla 5's death penalty case on automatic review before the Supreme Court. It would be a violation of the *sub judice* rule, they said.

Last January, however, then acting Justice Secretary Merceditas Gutierrez overturned this ruling and ordered a reopening of the case.

As of last week, the reinvestigation is still in its preliminary stage.

But Lumanog is hopeful that with the surgery done, he can pay more attention to the case.

The death convict is eagerly awaiting the opportunity to clear his name—now the only legacy he can give his children.

DOING fine: Kidney transplant patient Lenido Lumanog recuperating at the National Kidney Institute is grateful for his new lease on life through the kindness of many especially Mr. Mike Arroyo. JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

Tourism starting to hurt—Gordon

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Tourism Secretary Richard Gordon said the SARS problem in Hong Kong, Singapore and China had caused a negative 25-percent decline in tourist arrivals in the Philippines in the first three weeks of April.

The two cities and China are the fourth, fifth and sixth tourist markets of the Philippines. SARS cases and deaths were higher in these places compared to the more than 25 countries where the disease had been reported.

But Gordon, the chair of the Pacific Asian Travel Association, said it was the "over-bloated" and "overrated" perception of the SARS problem that was killing the countries' economies.

The real problem, he added, was "another kind of SARS or Severe Awareness Responsibility Shortage."

"Look, there were some four million cases of pneumonia throughout the whole world in 1995. SARS had killed less than 400 people," he explained.

Compared to Singapore, that incurred a sharp 58 percent reduction in its tourism income, and Hong Kong, where the airline Cathay Pacific experienced a 55-percent grounding of its fleet, Gordon said the Philippines attained a 2-percent rise in tourist arrivals during the entire first quarter.

The high arrivals in January and February had managed to offset the 9.5-percent drop in March, he said.

Gordon said the DOT remained aggressive in promoting Philippine tourism in countries where there are still no SARS cases like Germany.

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SARS reports drive people to panic

PEOPLE in the provinces are being driven to the edge of panic by numerous reports, most of them unconfirmed, of persons getting infected by the virus that causes Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS).

COVERED faces become common sight in Alcala, Pangasinan where one of the first SARS death in the country was confirmed.

PDI PHOTO/VAL HANDUMON

In Central Luzon, the mere suspicion of the presence of SARS triggers panic reaction.

Dr. Ethelyn Nieto, regional head of the health department, had a first hand experience with the panic that mere suspicion could create.

She broke off from the inauguration of a birthing station in Moncada, Tarlac to take a call from Olongapo City Vice Mayor Cynthia Cajudo regarding a Taiwanese locked up at home at the Subic Bay Freeport with cough and high fever.

But no doctor would attend to the Taiwanese, forcing Nieto to call a Bataan hospital to seek help and endorse the Taiwanese to the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine (RITM) or the San Lazaro Hospital in Manila.

Nieto said she was shocked at the impact that her call to the hospital made.

"Doctors and nurses here are crying because a SARS suspect would be taken to Bataan," Nieto recalled being told on the telephone.

"But he is only a suspected SARS patient. If you will react like that, it's better that all of you resign," Nieto recalled saying in reply.

Nieto was forced to ask the head of the Jose Lingad Memorial Hospital in San Fernando City to send a doctor and an ambulance to Subic, check on the patient and endorse him to the RITM or San Lazaro.

Deadly panic

As she addressed health workers and public officials in Moncada, Nieto said that more than the virus, "it is panic that will kill us."

"Do not panic, take a look at the clinical history of the patient. We should be very cautious but at the same time exercise diligence in looking at suspected or probable SARS patients. The suspected SARS patient is the first to be made to wear a mask," she said.

Nieto said cases of local transmission are the key in determining if an area is SARS-free.

"You can declare an area SARS-free until no local transmission occurs," she said.

She cited the case of Barangay Vacante in Alcala, Pangasinan, the home village of SARS victims Adela Catalon and her father Mauricio.

"If nothing happens until (Saturday), the last day of the incubation period, if nobody gets SARS, then it (Barangay Vacante) will be declared SARS-free," Nieto said.

Tarlac Rep. Gilberto Teodoro Jr. said aside from panic, rumormongers contribute to the misinformation about SARS. "Rumormongers should be punished as we should not toy with the issue at a time like this," he said.

Ricardo Ramos, Tarlac health director, said the SARS experience is a wake up call for Filipinos.

Wake-up call

"It is a call to go back to the basics of personal health care—proper nutrition, a healthy lifestyle and personal hygiene," he said.

In Nueva Ecija, rumors spread by text messages in Cabanatuan City, Science City of Muñoz and San Antonio town have created panic in the province.

"This is causing problems," Dr. Annette de Guzman-Bautista, president of the Nueva Ecija Medical Society (NEMS), said. "The truth is that we have no SARS-afflicted persons in the province."

The Nueva Ecija health office said the Filipino-Canadian boy in San Antonio, Nueva Ecija, who was examined at the RITM, was cleared by doctors.

In Pangasinan, residents of a village in Mangaldan town panicked after an overseas Filipino worker went down with high fever days after her arrival from Hong Kong.

A resident said the OFW arrived April 6 and started to have fever on April 10. But doctors at the Region 1 Medical Center said the OFW suffered from urinary tract infection (UTI), not SARS.

The homecoming of a domestic helper from Hong Kong, a native of Tambulig, Zamboanga del Sur, turned out to be a publicly heralded event in Ozamis City Saturday morning because of the SARS scare.

The domestic helper went home after her employer in Hong Kong went jobless and could not pay her wages anymore.

The ship that was carrying the woman was kept from docking for hours until health teams had examined the suspected SARS carrier.

Rumor source

The rumors first spread in Tambulig, where townsfolk had been expressing alarm over the woman's homecoming.

After the tests were made and the ship was cleared to dock, 997 passengers, mostly wearing protective covers such as hankies, towels and whatever they could use to cover their faces, streamed out of the vessel.

Many of the passengers were alarmed when they learned they would be delayed because of a probable SARS case.

A member of the health team said the woman's body temperature at the time of the test was 37.3 degrees Celsius, very much lower than the indicative body temperature of a probable SARS patient of over 38 degrees.

But the health personnel advised the woman to voluntary isolate herself for seven to 10 days, after which she should seek medical attention to properly evaluate her condition.

In the event the woman manifests SARS symptoms, the team said they would invite those who came in close contact with her, primarily those whose beds are near hers, to medical tests.

The woman's mother who came to fetch her daughter, was overwhelmed by the attention her virtually unknown family suddenly got.

But she admitted that back in Tambulig town, she had minor altercations with some neighbors, who expressed alarm over reports that her daughter was carrying the SARS virus.

The mother said before her daughter left for home, rural health unit personnel told her to isolate her daughter to make sure she doesn't spread the SARS virus if ever she carried it.

Residents used barrels to block the national highway leading to the hospital where the woman was supposed to be taken.

Placards

The residents carried placards with the message: "SARS no entry!"

In General Santos City, persons showing SARS-like symptoms were told not to go directly to clinics or hospitals to avoid spreading the virus.

Dr. Fidel Penamante, city health officer, said possible SARS patients should wait for medical teams at home.

"Our foremost concern here is to prevent the spread of the virus," he said.

In Cotabato City, health authorities said they could not probably handle SARS cases.

In Negros Oriental, doctors are grappling with whether to treat or not persons infected with SARS.

"We are not psychologically ready. We are trying to prepare scientifically but we always have that feeling of self-preservation especially if you're a married person," said Dr. Walden Ursos, an internist at the Silliman Medical Center (SMC).

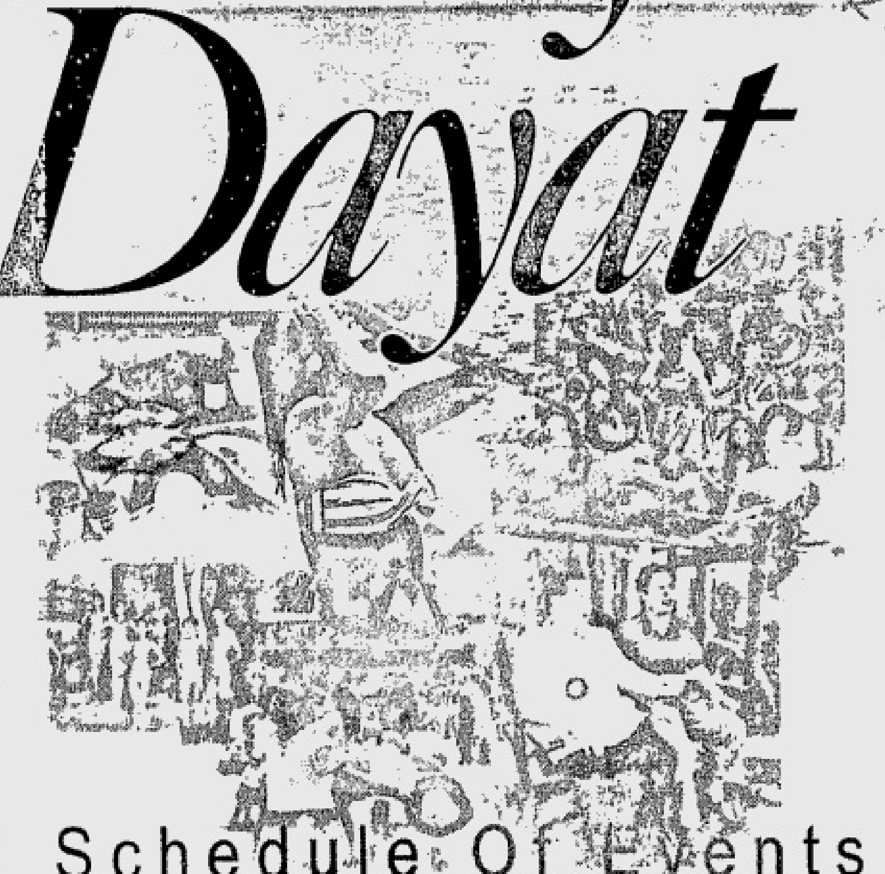
"We're also concerned about our family. For me, it's going to be a personal decision, which I will have to make when the patient is there," said Ursos, chair of the hospital's infection control committee.

In a media briefing on the hospital's preparations for SARS, Ursos said hospital personnel have been directed to wear masks at all times, even as Negros Oriental remains SARS-free.

"We are just preparing for the fear of the unknown, even as this might be misinterpreted by some to mean that SARS is already in Dumaguete. But we are just trying to be prepared, in response to the request of the Department of Health. This will be our first line of defense," he said.

Sr. Gloria Ibalio, medical director of the Holy Child Hospital, admitted on Friday that they were not equipped to handle SARS cases and any SARS patient would be sent to Manila.

At the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital, Dr. Virgilio Sienes said the province has an isolation ward and the hospital is still not prepared for SARS. *Reports from Alex Pal and Carla Gomez, PDI Visayas Bureau; Ryan Rosauro with Aquiles Zonio and Edwin Fernandez, PDI Mindanao Bureau and Jo Clemente, Anselmo Roque and Tonette Orejas, PDI Central Luzon Desk and Volanda Sotelo-Fuertes, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*



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Schedule Of Events

April 14-May 9
Tianggehan Sa Pista'y Dayat, *Open daily until Midnight at the Capitol Grounds*
April 23-25
Pinta Ko Alay Ko, Mural Painting by Pangasinan Artists, *whole day at the Capitol Plaza*
April 23
Soft Opening of the Panangidayew Agro, Trade, Tourism and Seafoods fair, *9 AM at the Capitol Grounds*
April 25
Pinta Ko Alay Ko Scroll Painting Competition, *9 AM- 5 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
Opening of TESDA Regional Skills Competition, *9 AM at the Sison Auditorium (up to April 27)*
San Miguel Beer Battle of the Bands Elimination Rounds *(until April 30)*, *7 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
April 28
Pista'y Dayat 2003 Grand Opening, *8:30 AM at the Capitol Plaza*
Rep. Imee Marcos, *Guest of Honor and Speaker*
Ribbon-cutting of the Panangidayew Trade, Tourism, and Seafoods Fair
Viewing of Exhibits and Art Demonstrations, Pinta Ko, Alay Ko, Pangasinan Art Festival and the Ating Yaman Photography Competition, *Capitol Grounds*
Drum and Lyre Competition, Elementary Division, *1 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
Limgas na Dayat 2003 Talent Competition and Presentation of Mr. Maharlikang Pista'y Dayat Official Candidates, *8 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
April 29
Drum and Lyre Competition, Secondary Division with special segment of Hottah Hottah Summah! By Coca Cola, *8 AM-4 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
Magpalipad Tayo Kite Flying Competition, *1 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
Shoot Dat Ball! Basketball Exhibition (Showbiz stars versus local officials), *3 PM at the NRSCC Gym*
Cool Pasaya, Albp. By Philippine Beverage, *4 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
Pangasinan Cultural Festival, *6 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
Konsierto sa Gulpo, *8 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
April 30
Buhay Sa Buhangin Sand Sculpting Competition
6:30 AM- 11 AM at the Lingayen Beachfront
Palaro ng Lahi Native Games, *9 AM to 4 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
Limgas Na Dayat 2003 Pageant and Coronation Night, *8:30 PM at the NRSCC Gym*
May 1
Her Excellency, President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo, Guest of Honor
Misa na Pasasalamat Thanksgiving Mass, *7:30 AM at the Capitol Plaza*
Bangkarosa Float Parade Competition, *8:30 AM*
Route starts at Alvear and Artacho Streets-Maramba Blvd.-Capitol Plaza
Sayaksak Tan Gayaga Ed Dalan Street Dancing Competition, *8:30 AM*
Route starts at Alvear and Artacho Streets-Maramba Blvd.-Capitol Plaza
Magpalipad Tayo Kite Flying Exhibition, *1 PM at the Capitol Grounds*
San Miguel Beer Battle of the Bands Finals Night, *7 PM at the Capitol Plaza*
May 2
Market Encounter; Australian-Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry with the Pangasinan Local Entrepreneurs, Manufacturers and Local Producers, *8 AM-12 NN at Consuelo's Restaurant*
Panangidayew Super Sale, *whole day at the Capitol Grounds*
Mr. Maharlika Pista'y Dayat, *8 PM at the Capitol Plaza*

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INQUIRER*Mindanao*
Editor Jun Bandayrel • *Bureau Chief* Nico A. Alconaba

The passion of Lanao's Cebuano writers

By Christine Godinez-Ortega
Iligan City

A PASSIONATE patience at mastering craft through imitation and experience, and the ability to strike a balance between literary art and popular culture have been the lifetime concerns of Lanao's writers in Cebuano.

They may not be considered mainstream, nor will they ever be lionized by Manila's tri-media due to ignorance and indifference, but still their achievements cannot be underestimated. One day, when all of their works have been collected to contribute to the poetics on vernacular literature, Filipinos will have a better appreciation of the writers' staying power in the context of shifting language policies and the few publishing outlets available to them, such as the Bisaya Magazine founded by Ramon Roces in 1930.

With pride, the writers, who are in their 60s and 70s, brought with them for the interview copies of their early and latest works. One of them opened a family album containing news clippings and photos taken during writing awards.

THE CEBUANO writers of Lanao—(from left) Gumercindo Rafanan, Ricardo Hynson, Marcelo Geocallo and Arturo Penaserada.
PDI PHOTO/PDI MINDANAO BUREAU

During the lively interview, the INQUIRER Mindanao probed the all-male group on why they write, how they have dealt with their "agonies," and almost everything else about their lives.

The surprise twists that afternoon were the "instant workshop" on the short story, "Dito Sa Among Baryo," by Sheilfa Alojamiento, this year's second prize winner of the Don Carlos Palanca Memorial Awards for Literature in Cebuano, and the reading of "The Writer's Creed" as dialogue from Act 2 of Edmond Rostand's "Cyrano de Bergerac," which read, in part, that the writer must "fight or write," must remain "free, with an eye to see things as they are."

And so here, in short takes, are four of Lanao's most important writers in Cebuano.

Penaserada

"I never write a line that I haven't heard in my heart," Arturo G. Penaserada, 71, characterized his writing career. The soft-spoken, two-time Palanca awardee and recipient of other numerous writing awards from the Liwayway Publishing House and the writers' groups, Lubas sa Dagang Bisaya (Ludabi) and the Bathaladhong Halad sa Dagang (Bathalad), came despite commuting problems. Trouble was again brewing between government troops and the Moro Islamic Liberation Front rebels in his hometown, Kauswagan.

As a high school student who enrolled late for his classes, Penaserada felt challenged to prove himself because of his inability to diagram sentences. He wrote copiously and published his poetry and stories in English in his high school and college student papers at the Misamis Colleges, but he shifted to Cebuano soon afterwards.

His first rejection slip came from an editor of the Bisaya, who said that although his story had "superb description, there was no story."

Challenged once more, he read stories in English, learning on his own writers' narrative techniques, particularly Ernest Hemingway's.

In spite of his teaching and administrative duties as a high school principal, Penaserada wrote almost daily. In time, he learned how to "end the story, especially when the public needs more."

And showing an early preference for "beautiful places" and "beautiful women with long hair and nice legs," he has since authored 80 short stories, nine of these about women, such as "Sadia," "Rhodora," "Felima," "Ceding," "Amapola," "Pula ang buhok sa Rosas," "Graduation" and "Dugos sa Putyokan."

As a beginning writer, Penaserada studied the writing styles and editorial policies of the Bisaya before his first published story, "Sadia" appeared there.

Penaserada also talked about his first Palanca award-winning story, originally titled "Tuli" (Circumcision), which was published under the title "Usa Ka Tunob Sa Usa Ka Batan-on," by the conservative editors of the Bisaya. Insisting that parts of the body should be labeled as we know them, Penaserada kept this story until the call for entries for the Palanca came two years ago. Submitting the same story in its original title, it won first prize in the prestigious contest.

Hynson

A barber and retired government employee-turned-novelist, Ricardo M. Hynson, 69, learned about the craft from English and American writers, and from one of his barbershop customers, Gumersindo Rafanan.

Hynson had his share of "numerous rejection slips," for although he knew his Cebuano well, he lacked the technical skill in writing fiction.

Like Penaserada, Rafanan and Marcelo Geocallo, Hynson did not go to writers' workshops because at that time, there were nothing of the kind. He continued to write publishing his first short story, "Ang Bulak," in Bisaya in 1958.

But again, Hynson learned one more lesson from an editor of the Bisaya who told him to avoid "mechanical endings," referring to his short story, "Haring Lawaan," inspired by Hemingway's "Old Man and the Sea." Hynson used as metaphor the struggles between man and the octopus, with the octopus winning over man. The significance must have been missed by the editor because he asked Hynson "to make man win" instead.

Compromise may not have been ideal for a writer who must always be independent, but for Hynson, who was only beginning to get published, it was difficult to argue with an editor who preferred moral lessons in traditional plots, or of an editor who knew what the public wanted. Hynson relented, eventually, and the story was published in the Manila Bulletin's Silaw magazine in 1962.

Today, after 15 novels, 150 short stories, 10 poems and a dozen writing awards from the Bisaya, Ludabi and Bathalad, Hynson is a household name among the readers of Bisaya. At present, his novel, "Maria Isabel Martinez: GRO," is being serialized in the Bisaya for 42 weeks at P250 a week, a no mean feat for a humble man who realized that the ,writer must go through other "agonies" besides sleeping on a sacred mountain.

Rafanan

Among the four Cebuano writers from Lanao, Gumersindo M. Rafanan, 62, is a poet and fictionist writing in Cebuano, Tagalog and English. To date, he has authored 25 novels in Cebuano, most of them in serial form, either in print or illustrated in the comics section of Bisaya.

His latest novel, "Ang Gikalisangan sa Pantao Ragat," came out in 94 installments in Bisaya at P250 per issue, surely a pittance in comparison to the demands of writing a novel but an improvement since 1953 when, according to Rafanan, the going rate for the short story was P25 in the Bisaya and P40 in the Liwayway.

From this Ludabi and Bathalad-Mindanao Hall of Famer, winning to date a total of 71 prizes for his fiction and poetry, including the Cultural Center of the Philippines' grant in 1994 for his Tagalog translation of Sulpicio Osorio's novel, "Mga Bungsod Nga Gipangguba," Rafanan has developed a perfect understanding of moment and milieu, writing for his audience topical, realistic and "conversational" stories.

"Why make [poetry or stories] difficult?" he asks. In his experience and in his study of the literary styles of writers in popular magazines that publish Cebuano fiction and poetry, he has learned that if the work is "too literary," readers won't read them because "they are not really educated."

As a former English major and retired government auditor, Rafanan, like Penaserada, has been called by scholar Resil Mojares "a most competent writer" in Cebuano.

Early in his writing career, Rafanan had picked up writing techniques from English and American models. But his fierce devotion to writing in Cebuano is legend.

In an emotional appeal "to love one's own language and culture" during the recent "Balaki ko day" literary readings at the St. Michael's College in Iligan City, which was sponsored by the National Commission for Culture and the Arts, Rafanan challenged his audience to take a hard look at themselves, at where they come from, and to take pride in their own language, echoing the sentiments expressed long ago by then President Carlos P. Garcia, who was also a poet.

Geocallo

Like the other three writers, Marcelo A. Geocallo, 63, need not kiss the hem of a muse's gown to make him write.

Saying that he types away without ritual or ceremony, Geocallo said, matter-of-factly, "I write anytime and anywhere." Settling comfortably in his chair, he told everyone in the room that writing for him has never been such fun.

Using alternately the pen names, Geronimo A. Molave, Ram Sanara and Juanario Diez Saez, Geocallo is also a Ludabi and Bathalad Hall of Famer, having won five prizes for fiction, five first prizes for poetry and citations for essays and radio scripts.

This writing machine has written a total of 200 poems, 200 short stories and 12 novels, and has produced radio scripts every week for 12 months during his brief stint with Iligan's radio station dxIC.

Aside from being prolific, Geocallo is the most anthologized in the group. His works appeared in the Kaliring, Wagas, Sanggi and the Cebuano Poetry/Sugboanong Balak and Panulaang Cebuano published by the Ateneo de Manila University Press in 1993.

> One day when all of their works have been collected . . . Filipinos will have a better appreciation of the writers' staying power . . .'

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SARS downs another Pinoy in HK

By Cherry Velarde
Contributor

HONG KONG—Another Filipino was confirmed to have contracted Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS), Philippine Consul General Victoria Bataclan said on Friday

The latest victim is a female domestic helper now confined at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Kowloon district. She was brought there for treatment last April 16 and is now in "stable condition," Bataclan said.

The latest case brings the total number of Filipinos in Hong Kong with SARS to nine, including one death. Five have recovered from the deadly disease and have been discharged from the hospital.

In view of the rising cases among Filipinos, the consulate is boosting its education campaigns within the Filipino community in Hong Kong and implementing stricter measures to control the spread of the disease. Bataclan once more urged Filipino domestic helpers to avoid huge social gatherings, including their traditional assemblies during their day off, usually on Sundays.

Bataclan said the consulate continues to check on the conditions of Filipinos living in SARS-infected buildings. There are 127 office and apartment buildings, schools and hospitals around Hong Kong that have been categorized by the Hong Kong government as SARS-infected.

Bataclan has also mobilized leaders of the Filipino community to help in monitoring and reporting SARS cases in their groups.

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Jet-setting FVR passes tests

By Vincent Cabreza
PDI Northern Luzon Bureau

BAGUIO CITY—The man who possibly holds the record in the country for the highest frequent flyer mileage had to undergo a series of SARS tests at the Baguio Country Club (BCC) here on Friday where he attended the annual assembly of the Semiconductor and Electronics Industries in the Philippines Inc. (Seipi).

For former President Fidel Ramos, the SARS test is not the first drawback in his self-proclaimed role as the Philippines elder statesman. During a recent Chicago trip, Ramos said he was actually profiled as a potential terrorist and was led away by US airport officials for mandatory questioning.

The US government started profiling foreigners, either by computer or by trained airline experts, following the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks in New York City and Washington.

"My name came up and I was frisked, but let us not belabor this anymore. This is part (of the hazards of being the country's statesman)," Ramos said.

He said traveling afforded him the best opportunity to sell the potentials of the Philippines. But with the government's admission that the country is no longer SARS-free, foreign countries Ramos routinely visits could apply even stricter entry procedures.

Sin: Kiss saints no more

From page A1

CARDINAL SIN

rectly into their mouths as is customary.

The cardinal also appealed to Catholics to storm the heavens with special prayers normally said in times of "calamities and inexplicable natural catastrophes."

Obligatory prayer

This prayer is called the *Oratio Imparata*, or obligatory prayer. Sin called on the parishes to recite this prayer during daily Mass, asking God to "protect us and spare us who are faced with the danger of the mysterious sickness of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome."

The obligatory prayer originated from the early century Catholic Church and is a plea for help for those "contaminated" with diseases. It seeks divine intervention in times of calamities and inexplicable natural catastrophes.

The Catholic Bishops Conference of the Philippines made a similar call during the onslaught of El Niño in 1998. But it had revised the prayer to make it into a prayer for rain. Then CBCP president, Archbishop Oscar Cruz said then that, "This prayer was so powerful that if used during El Niño, violent rains coupled with flooding would come instead..."

The prayer was also used in 1982-83 during another El Niño spell which ravaged crops and livestock worth P5 billion.

Patron in times of pestilence

Sin also asked parishes under the patronage of San Roque, patron saint in times of pestilence and in cases of incurable illnesses, to "make special prayers and penitential procession" for protection against SARS.

The circular, Sin said, was intended to encourage people to "observe protection in certain religious practices."

Alarmed by the "mysterious sickness" that has already claimed several Filipino lives, Sin asked Catholics to "move together as a Christian community, believing the promise of the Lord that with great faith, we can move mountains."

He also asked that intentions be inserted in the intercession and prayers during Masses, asking God to spare the Filipinos and the world from SARS, and that those suffering from the disease be healed "and find comfort and consolation offered by our Christian communities."

The intentions should also be dedicated to those providing medical care to SARS patients, that people grant them "support and understanding for the delicate task they must perform," Sin said.

Several other Catholic communities in the world have already imposed restrictions in their respective jurisdictions to prevent the spread of SARS. Such measures include the congregation being discouraged from holding hands during the praying of the "Our Father" and from shaking hands as a sign of peace and are instead encouraged to just nod to each other.

In some countries like Singapore, priests no longer hear confessions to prevent close contact with parishioners who might be infected with SARS. Instead, they are given a general absolution by the priests. *With a report from AFP*

Bored in isolation, JP asks for television set

From page A1

The husband has not shown SARS symptoms.

Dr. Adelaida Asperin, chief of the hospital, said an X-ray, done shortly after JP was admitted at the EVRMC on Friday afternoon, yielded negative for pneumonia.

Still, JP will be considered a SARS patient pending results of tests on blood samples taken from her.

Mila Bachu-Bacus, Department of Health director for Eastern Visayas, could not say if there was a need to quarantine the village where JP lives.

JP is from Barangay Maybucog, about a kilometer away from the town proper of Maydolong, Eastern Samar.

The attending physician of JP and her husband has also been placed under isolation.

The doctor, a staff member of EVRMC, is given his daily ration of food and can only be contacted through his cellular phone. He wears complete protective gear including N95 mask, goggles, disposable protective gown, gloves, boots and shoe cover.

Dr. Nicholas Bautista, chief epidemiologist of the DOH Eastern Visayas who fetched JP from her residence, said JP made only four contacts—her husband, her parents and their houseboy.

The parents and the houseboy had agreed to undergo voluntary quarantine.

Discrimination

EVRMC staff complained they were being discriminated against since JP was confined there.

A male employee said drivers of public utility vehicles in Tacloban refused to take medical staff to the hospital.

Jose Cular, a motorcab driver, admitted he has refused to take passengers to the EVRMC, especially if they are medical workers.

"I might be infected by SARS. I am just trying to protect myself," he said.

A female nurse at the medical ward said she was hesitant to report for work after JP was brought to the hospital.

"I am afraid not only for myself but for my own family," she said.

She said she did not feel like going to work when she learned that JP was in the hospital.

The EVRMC, designed as the SARS center for Eastern Visayas, has 420 staff members.

Fewer patients

Asperin admitted that there were fewer patients at the EVRMC since JP was admitted to the hospital. She could not however say how many patients had left the hospital.

The EVRMC has a 250-bed capacity but sometimes the number of patients reaches more than 300, Asperin said.

Asperin warned EVRMC personnel that she would not think twice about terminating their employment if they showed reluctance in attending to JP.

"If they cannot follow orders, they better resign. They should not renege on their duties," she said.

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WHO: OFWs chief carriers of SARS ...

From page A1

them. We should help them go to health facilities to be isolated," he told the INQUIRER.

At a briefing Friday, Secretary Manuel Dayrit said the Department of Health was bracing for "the possibility of seeing [more] SARS cases in remote areas" because of returning OFWs.

He said yesterday that there was still no strong indication that OFWs were being "stigmatized as a group."

"But if you come from Hong Kong, [one of the hardest-hit areas in Asia], people are likely to stay away from you," he said.

Dayrit said the issue was something that the DOH was trying to address. "We need to step up our information dissemination efforts to ensure that everything is OK," he said.

Vaccine years away

In Kuala Lumpur, WHO official Mark Salter said the search for an effective vaccine would take time.

"I think we are looking at two years, three years maybe, before a vaccine," he said, adding that WHO planned to pull together world vaccine experts next week to speed things along.

In Alcala, Pangasinan, the quarantine imposed on three zones of Barangay Vacante here is expected to be officially lifted today despite the Department of Health's confirmation Friday that SARS caused the deaths of a woman and her father from the village.

The lifting of the isolation period was initially scheduled yesterday. Health officials put it off for today to allow for a final examination of the quarantined residents for symptoms of the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome.

Quaratine extended

But in Manila, Dayrit said he had ordered a five-day extension of the quarantine on a number of households in Vacante. The members of these households were the close contacts of Mauricio Catalon, who died of SARS on April 22 after being infected by his daughter Adela.

Dayrit deferred Mauricio's burial, earlier scheduled yesterday, to Wednesday.

Mauricio's wife, their son and a granddaughter who are in quarantine at the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine in Alabang will be told to stay on until the end of the month, in observance of the regulatory two-week isolation period. Their last contact with Mauricio was on April 16.

The close contacts of Adela Catalon, who died on April 14, have been cleared.

Dayrit also said the latest X-rays of JP, the country's fourth SARS case and now in isolation at the Eastern Visayas Regional Medical Center, showed that she no longer had symptoms of pneumonia and had recovered from fever.

But more tests will be conducted on JP, who is afflicted with tuberculosis, to determine the gravity of her ailment, Dayrit said.

He also said none of JP's four close contacts had exhibited SARS symptoms as of press time. (See story on page A1.)

In an executive order issued Friday night, President Macapagal-Arroyo vested Dayrit with sweeping powers, including the authority to use the police and military, to contain SARS.

The President yesterday said she would take the EO with her to the Asean leaders summit on SARS in Bangkok on Tuesday, hopefully along with proposed legislation on "strengthening the penalties for violating the rules to prevent SARS from spreading."

In her EO, Ms Macapagal also threatened to slap administrative sanctions on public officials who refuse to cooperate with government measures.

The other day, Tacloban Mayor Alfredo "Bejo" Romualdez Sr. tried to block a DOH team that was taking JP from Maydolong, Eastern Samar, to the EVRMC in Tacloban.

The mayor relented only after his cousin Alberto Romualdez, a former health secretary, convinced him that measures had been taken to prevent the spread of the SARS virus in the city.

Pangasinan health officer Dr. Nemesia Mejia said the extended isolation period in Vacante would cover only four households.

No complaints

Regional epidemiologist Revelyn Cayabyab, who has been coordinating the isolation procedures, said the members of these households did not complain when informed of the extension.

"I told them to be patient ... and they understood the situation," she said.

With the lifting of the isolation period, life in Vacante—where community activities such as a fiesta and a wedding had to be postponed—is expected to return to normal.

Pangasinan health officials said a medical team would visit the barangay this morning to take the temperature of each resident covered by the quarantine.

"Happily, no one from the isolated zones has developed fever as of Saturday," Mejia said.

Teams from the local police and the regional and provincial police mobile groups have been taking turns in enforcing the quarantine.

Cayabyab said the policemen guarding the barangay would now be pulled out. She said there was no need for police to guard the four houses still to be quarantined because the Catalons' relatives already knew the "rules of isolation."

"Now my men can rest," said Chief Insp. Sotero Soriano Jr., Alcala police chief.

But Florence Baldomero, a resident of Vacante and a distant relative of the Catalons, said that despite the police presence, the isolation of the three zones had not been strictly enforced.

She said that during the distribution of relief goods, the quarantined residents freely mingled with the residents of the barangay's other three zones.

"So where's the isolation procedure that they're talking about?" she said.

No cop sick

Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil said no one among the policemen belonging to the detachment in Alcala had come down with SARS.

Bataoil made the disclosure to belie speculations that a policeman afflicted with SARS was treated at the Philippine National Police General Hospital in Camp Crame a few days ago.

"So far, none of our policemen in any part of the country, including those posted in Alcala, was monitored to have contracted the disease," Bataoil said in a phone interview.

He said the Alcala policemen, whose main job consisted of setting up checkpoints and stopping residents from leaving the quarantined area, had been advised to take precautionary measures, like wearing masks.

Quoting doctors at the PNP General Hospital, Bataoil said a policeman with fever and cough was admitted there on Wednesday but was discharged the next day.

But in a radio interview, PNP Director Ricardo de Leon said the policeman was referred to the San Lazaro Hospital in Manila for further check-up.

Meanwhile, the Armed Forces announced that it would send a team of military doctors and nurses to the Ninoy Aquino International Airport on Monday to beef up the medical teams assigned to screen arriving passengers.

The team, to be composed of three doctors and three nurses, will be rotated each week for a period of six months, according to Lt. Col. Daniel Lucero, chief of the military's public information office. *With reports from Dona Z. Pazzibugan and TJ Burgonio*

Where's P1-B SARS fund?

A MILITANT group of government health workers yesterday demanded the immediate release of the P1-billion fund Malacañang said it was allotting for SARS control.

With the Philippines no longer SARS-free, the government should be providing protective gear to public hospital personnel, said the Alliance of Health Workers Inc.

The group noted that "there are still no negative pressure isolation rooms for positive cases, while the Research Institute for Tropical Medicine may not be able to cope with SARS cases in the event of an outbreak."

The RITM only has a 50-bed capacity, that's why "other government hospitals should be ready, too," it added.

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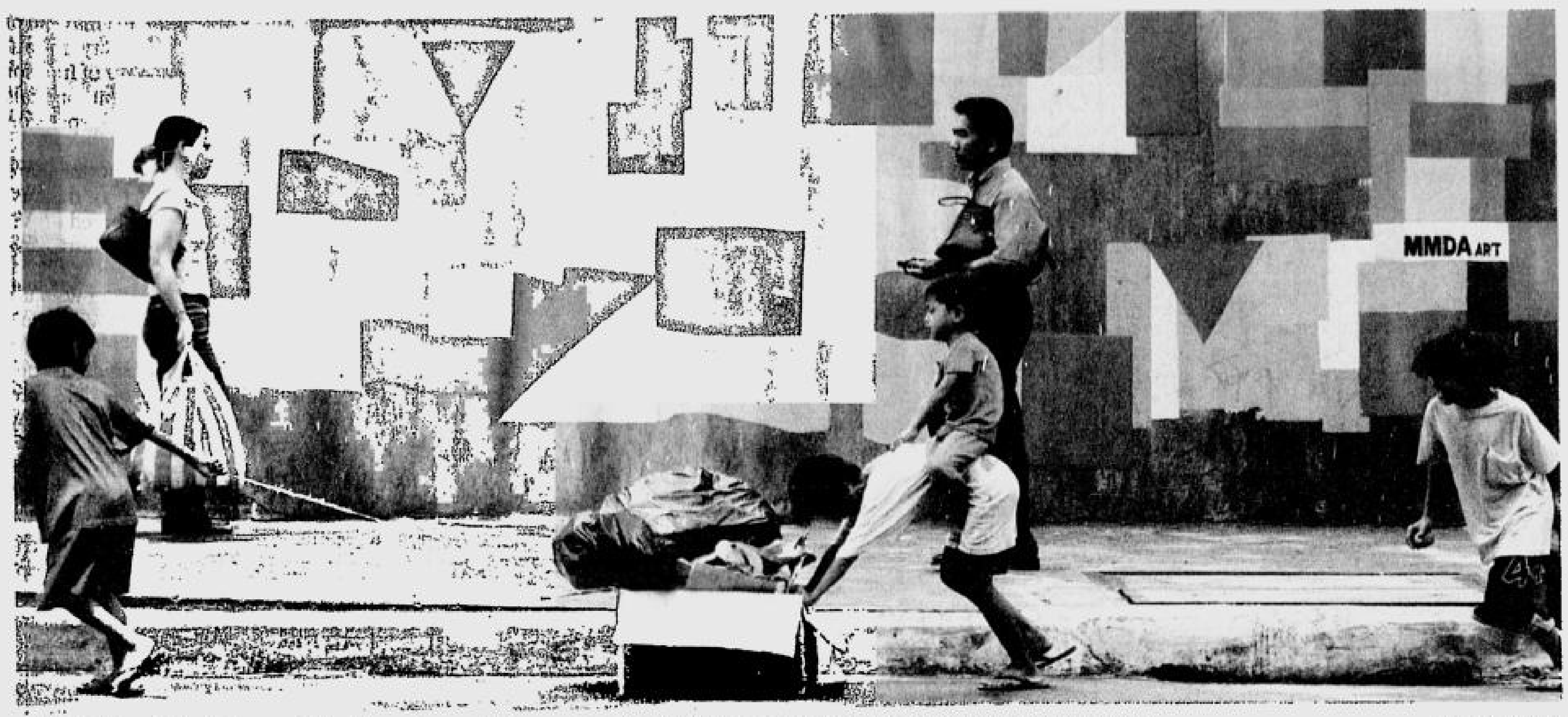

A WALL along Edsa in Quezon City is transformed into a canvas of a colorful geometric artwork executed by MMDA artists.

ERNIE U. SARMIENTO

Winning the war on wall art

By Leila B. Salaverria

THERE'S a battle going on between artists of the Metro Manila Development Authority and vandals.

The prize: Domination over walls and posts all over the metropolis.

So far, the MMDA artists appear to be winning as more of their artworks gain prominence over graffiti.

MMDA Traffic Operations Center Director Angelito Vergel de Dios said the amount of graffiti that had previously marred the walls and posts on main thoroughfares, particularly Edsa, has "noticeably lessened" since the MMDA began deploying its own artists earlier this year.

"(The vandals) are probably irked that their graffiti had been painted over, which is why some of them never returned to paint over that particular stretch of wall again," Vergel de Dios said in a recent interview.

Instead of slogans or symbols drawn with spray, most of the walls along Edsa have been painted over with geometric shapes in pastel colors. The signature "MMDA ART" is also found beneath the artworks.

Vergel de Dios explained that geometric shapes are used to cover the graffiti because simpler forms are faster to draw, and uses up less paint.

He also noted that the posts and walls along Edsa, Ramon Magsaysay Boulevard in Manila and the area around Malacañang are a favorite of vandals.

But while most of the graffiti on Edsa have been minimized, the area around Malacañang still poses a problem because it's a frequent venue of rallies.

During these gatherings, protesters post leaflets and spray paint their messages on the walls.

In January this year, the MMDA deployed teams of artists to transform the graffiti into artworks. The teams are also tasked with scrubbing leaflets or stickers off the walls.

The idea behind the project is to make graffiti less of an eyesore and discourage vandals from defacing the walls and posts again.

The project has elicited mixed reactions from passersby.

A 40-year-old security guard stationed in the Ortigas area agrees that the paint-over is a right step.

"Of course, vandals won't spray-paint over MMDA art because their messages would not stand out against the colors," the guard, who requested anonymity, said.

But other passersby said the MMDA art cannot eliminate graffiti completely.

"Nothing can stop vandals from writing what they want on the walls," a candy vendor, 36, told the INQUIRER. "We live in a democracy, after all."

A student from Parañaque put it more bluntly. "Do they actually expect some overlapping colorful shapes to finally do the trick?" Donna, 19, said.

With a report from Jamie Alarcon

Oil depot deadline to stay

THERE will be no extension of the April 30 deadline given to three oil firms in the Pandacan oil depot to shut down.

The Manila City Council said Caltex, Shell and Petron have to shut down operations in the depot after April 30 as provided in the memorandum of understanding between City Hall and the oil firms.

Council president pro tempore Alejandro "Kim" Atienza yesterday said the oil companies were "too slow" in complying with the MOU's terms, which include the dismantling of several fuel tanks, the creation of a green buffer zone and the setting up of a common distribution system.

The deadline to comply has been extended twice by the Council. But the oil companies have yet to fully comply with the MOU's terms.

If the MOU is not renewed, an ordinance converting the depot site from an industrial into a commercial zone and phasing out the facility would be in effect.

The oil firms are predicting "a fuel crisis" if the depot operations are shut down.

Jerome Aning

LATE SPORTS

Coca Cola shames Gin

By Marc Anthony Reyes

COCA Cola forced Barangay Ginebra to tie an all-time record in futility in posting an 83-54 victory last night in the PBA Samsung All Filipino Cup at the Ynares Center in Antipolo.

The Kings went scoreless for almost 12 minutes spanning the third and fourth quarters, producing only two points in the third.

Ginebra duplicated Mobiline's two points in the first quarter when it lost to Sta. Lucia Realty (71-69) on Feb. 28, 2001.

"Our defense couldn't hold them that much," admitted Coca Cola coach Chot Reyes. "We caught them in their off-day."

It was, of course, an understatement because Ginebra almost re-wrote the record book for worst games.

Ginebra also tied the sixth lowest score in a game, tying six other teams. The lowest score ever was 47 by Shell when it lost to Mobiline (79-47) on May 3, 2000.

Mark Caguioa managed to surpass that mark with a free throw with 2:05 left.

It was also the second all-time low score for three quarters, one point shy of Shell's 27-point production when it bowed to San Miguel (86-50) on Oct. 25, 2000.

In that embarrassing quarter, the Kings went 1-for-18 from the field. Only Alex Crisano made a basket with 8:13 to go in the period.

Ginebra changed the scoreboard only with 9:37 left when Eric Menk made an undergoal stab for a 60-30 count.

The Tigers raised their record to 6-5 while the Kings slipped to 4-9.

San Miguel Beer got the usual numbers from Nic Belasco and Danny Ildefonso to beat Alaska Milk, 78-69, in the first game.

Belasco, hero of the Beermen's conquest of the Aces in their previous meeting, scored 11 straight points in the fourth quarter as SMB repeated over Alaska for its sixth victory in 12 games.

The Aces, who rule Group A, fell twice in succession for an 8-5 card.

However, the triumph would not have been possible for the Beermen if not for Ildefonso's reassuring return after having gone in and out of games this conference due to a recurring knee injury.

"I think he's doing fine now, he really provided us a boost today," said SMB coach Jong Uichico.

More Sports on A25-A31

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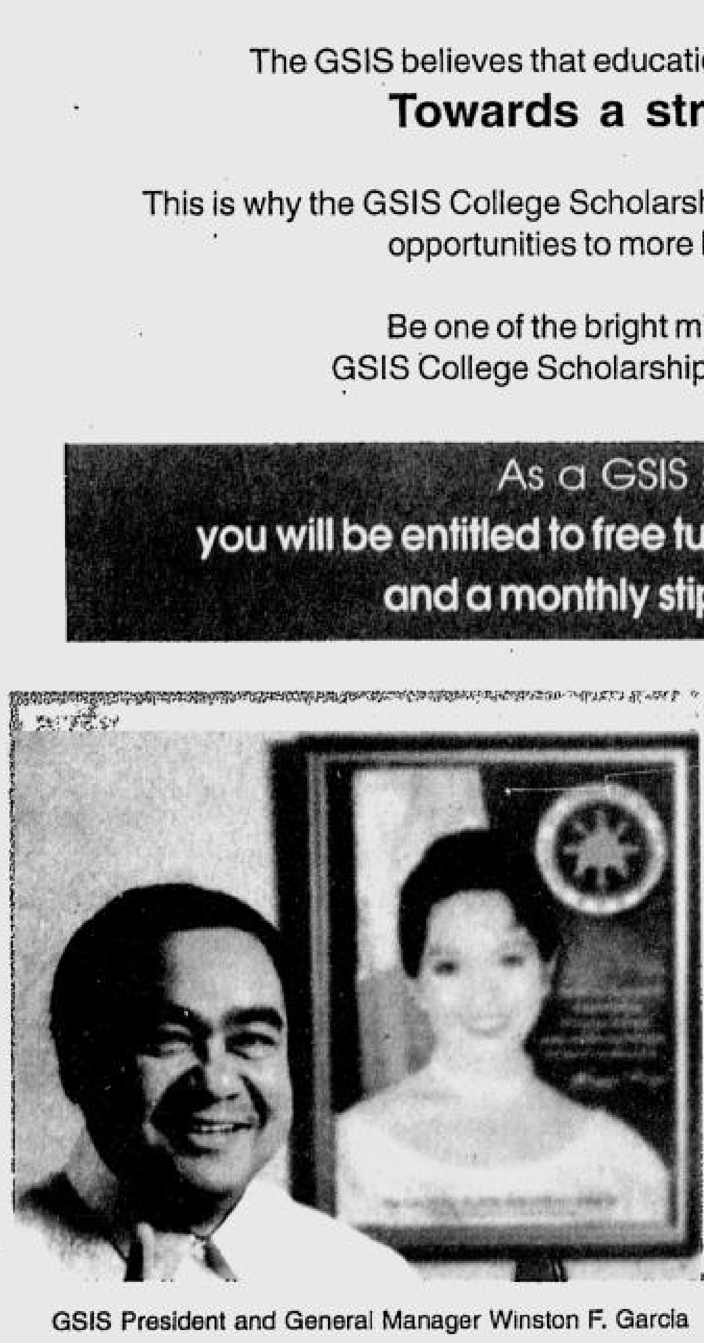

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6 mayors declare support for Vicencio

SIX METRO Manila mayors yesterday allegedly threw their support behind Amado Vicencio, the Malabon City mayor who was ordered suspended for the dubious purchase of property intended for squatters.

Malabon Public Information Officer Gerry Gonzales claimed that the six mayors already signed a manifesto of support for Vicencio during a Metro Manila Mayors Council meeting yesterday afternoon.

Gonzales said Jejomar Binay of Makati and Lito Atienza of Manila chaired yesterday's meeting where the six mayors declared their support for Vicencio.

Gonzales refused to identify who the mayors were.

The information officer also said that 16 of the 21 barangay chairs of the Association of Barangay Captains of Malabon issued their own manifesto of support for the mayor yesterday afternoon.

With this development, Malabon residents now face the real prospect of having two mayors governing their city.

On Thursday, Vice Mayor Mark Allan Jay Yambao took his oath of office in a Quezon City restaurant, after Department of Interior and Local Government officials served the preventive suspension order to Vicencio.

The mayor's supporters are now criticizing the way the suspension order was served to Vicencio. They are also questioning the validity of the order.

"The suspension order was just posted at the gate (of Vicencio's house in Aranate Village, Potrero), Gonzales said. "Under the law it should be delivered personally, through mail or by publication."

DILG officials said they tried to serve the order four times at the Malabon City Hall. But each time, they failed because of the barricade put up by Vicencio's supporters.

Vicencio earlier announced that he would not step down from office and vowed to fight the suspension order. *Anne Luisa Villarico*

Car thieves rarely get convicted

By Ma. Ceres P. Doyo
Conclusion

TRAFFIC Management Group authorities view the remains of a suspected car thief who was killed in a shootout in Quezon City. RANDY HORMILLOSA

INSURANCE companies who sell total wrecks along with these wrecked vehicles' papers know that the buyers are not interested in the junk but in the junk's papers and serialized parts. These wrecks will be resurrected. This is the reason behind the "orders" for the wreck's look-alikes, *kakambal* or twins.

Stolen MVs will assume the identities of the wrecks much like the way fugitives take on the identities of dead persons, preferably unknowns. But this type of operation is very deliberate and needs planning. It is not worth it if the vehicle to be brought back to life is not top-of-the-line.

Police Senior Superintendent Eliseo de la Paz, technical assistant for operations and law enforcement at the Land Transportation Office, said wrecks being sold at insurance auctions is a problem, a "hole that needs to be plugged."

"We have recommended that all documents of wrecks be shelved," said De la Paz, who spoke about "preferred clients" to whom insurance companies sell wrecks.

Reviving 'wrecks'

But the question remains: Who is to declare a wreck a wreck? Who should tell insurers that the wreck they are selling at a high price—with the vehicle's registration and with a deed of sale—is junk that should not get into the hands of assemblers?

With a wreck in their hands, the car theft syndicate needs a vehicle, a look-alike preferably, and of the same model to make it come to life. So the operatives spot for a "twin."

Serialized parts of the stolen vehicle are removed and in their place the serialized parts of the wreck are transferred. And since the wreck and its documents were bought from the insurance and have a deed of sale, transfer of ownership cannot be questioned.

When the stolen vehicle (that now has the serialized parts and genuine documents of the wreck) is sold, the seller and the buyer execute a deed of sale. All documents are genuine and the transaction is above board.

This is as "clean" as it can get without connivance from government agencies. When it gets to second-hand car dealers, it is presented as a fully documented, previously legitimately owned vehicle.

Hardly any conviction

The anti-fencing law (PD 1612) and anti-car theft law (RA 6539) are supposed to curb car theft and prevent sale of stolen MVs from thriving. The bad news is that despite the laws, hardly anyone has been convicted and jailed for car theft.

Police superintendent Alberto M. Taguiam Jr., chief of Traffic Management Group's legal division, said that for a car thief to get convicted, the victim has to fully cooperate or file a complaint.

There has to be witnesses, with the car thief preferably caught in the act. Mere possession of a stolen vehicle does not constitute car theft. The suspect could be charged with violating the anti-fencing law.

Car thieves who do SWP are fast in opening car doors, dismantling anti-theft gadgets and even disabling the alarm system. Said a cop detailed with TMG's Task Force Limbas: "That anti-theft gadget hooked on the wheel and the break pedal is easy to unhinge. One good kick and it is off."

In the absence of an alarm system, he suggests the metal bar that is placed across the wheel. It can't be kicked and locks the wheel more securely. It's no match against a gun, of course.

While keeping a copy of the OC-CR in the car is necessary for police checks, it is better to keep it in one's wallet or bag. Because if car thieves find a copy of the car's OR-CR in your car, this means they know right away who the owner is.

If registration renewal is soon, they could have someone pose as the owner and register the MV under the owner's name in another place and request for a new car plate number. The car's color could even be changed.

Beware of valet parking

One should also avoid leaving the car key with valet parking attendants. If you have to, leave the duplicate, not the main key that could open the trunk. The key could go to the wrong hands and be duplicated and the car could be marked as easy prey.

Through the car plate number, the car owner's name and address could easily be found at the LTO—and his or her whereabouts tracked.

Car thieves also go to parking lots, park their decrepit car, pick up someone else's car and drive away with it. Guards don't always read the plate number written on the parking stub to see if the car being driven out is the right one. Car thieves would have more difficulty with parking that uses digital cards.

Read the fine print

One should read the fine print on parking stubs. Mall and parking lot owners are not responsible for losses. One should always turn on the alarm system or secure the wheel with an anti-theft gadget.

Most paid parking places have warning for drivers not to stay inside the car while waiting. The same applies when parked in public places. Inside paid parking areas, car thieves could still take the car and parking stub at gun point.

Before going out of your gate and coming in especially at night, look if there are suspicious characters near your gate. They could take your car at gun point and worse, ask you to open your home to them.

If a suspicious vehicle is trailing you, drive fast to the nearest police outpost or a place that you think is safe. And if a gun is pointed at you, give up the car. Your life is more important.

Certificate

If your car is stolen while parked (SWP) or forcibly taken (FT), report the incident to the police precinct of the area where it happened. You will be asked to write a complaint sheet after which you will be issued a certification.

From there, proceed to Task Force Limbas (or its equivalent in your area). Present the complaint sheet and certification. You will be issued an alarm sheet containing the circumstances pertaining to your loss. The police will also send out an alarm to various regions.

The Philippine National Police's Traffic Management Group (TMG) issues the certificate of non-recovery (for insurance claims) after 90 days at the most. To get this you have to submit clear machine copies of the complaint and alarm sheets mentioned earlier plus identification document and picture.

Documents needed

From the LTO where your vehicle was originally registered, get clear and authenticated copies of the following: vehicle sales invoice, LTO confirmation certificate, LTO motor vehicle report showing the stencil of the motor and chassis numbers, PNO motor vehicle clearance certificate, and other proofs of ownership.

Read your insurance policy. Some companies have add-ons in their favor. For example, if the vehicle is destroyed because of acts of terrorism, the insurance company does not pay. Also, insurance companies do not always explain that the amount the car is insured for is not always what the victim will get.

Firm owns up tainted water rap in Las Piñas

By Christian V. Esguerra

A PRIVATE water supply company yesterday claimed responsibility over the contaminated water that supposedly caused the spread of typhoid fever in a Las Piñas village.

BF Waterworks finally complied with the sanitary order of the city health officer and began disinfecting the water system of BF Resort in Barangay Talon II.

"We're putting our company's name at stake here," said Henry Mercaida, the firm's distribution and customer services department chief.

"Nothing will happen if everybody will just focus on blaming people and issuing denials."

BF Waterworks had initially contested the finding of city health officer Esther Oliveros that its pump on Yolanda Dominguez Street was contaminated with fecal coliform.

A barangay watchman identified as Sherwin Dula allegedly died of typhoid fever, while at least 300 residents reportedly contracted the disease, according to villager officer Gerald Santos.

At around 8 a.m. on Friday, BF Waterworks disconnected pipes at the subdivision and began flushing out "dark" water, according to Mercaida.

Once the water becomes clear, he said, the firm would then reconnect the pipes and treat the water with heavy doses of chlorine.

"The process would take time," Mercaida said. "But at least we'll be sure that the water would be safe and clean."

Residents began complaining of high fever, vomiting, diarrhea, and other ailments when the firm operated a new water pump, Santos said.

Mercaida had admitted that the pump could have flushed dirty sediments from previously unused pipes into the main water system.

Early this month, Santos described the tap water as "black as coffee."

He said the water looked that way for at least eight hours.

"It's not even good for laundry or for washing dishes," Santos said.

As of Friday, residents were still complaining of discoloration in their tap water.

A PRIVATE water company in Las Piñas has claimed responsibility for the contaminated water that has sent several residents to the hospital. JESS YUSON

Chinoy woman, driver abducted in Binondo

By Jerome Aning

A CHINESE-FILIPINO businesswoman and her driver was reportedly abducted by three armed men in Binondo, Manila before dawn yesterday.

At press time, Western Police District officials were trying to confirm reports that the victims—a 40-year-old casino financier and resident of Binondo, and her driver, identified only as Dante—have been released. The abduction was reported by the businesswoman's sister who were with the victims at the time of the abduction.

Dante was driving the victim's dark green Honda CRV (WKB-598) when three armed men on board a black car (WDH-354) blocked their path on Del Pan corner Valderama streets at around 1:30 a.m.

One of the suspects got down from the car, poked a gun at the driver and told him to transfer to the front passenger's seat.

While the driver transferred seats, the sister opened the car door on her side and escaped. She went directly to the police and reported the incident. The WPD's intelligence and investigation division has taken on the case.

Shabu found in abandoned car in QC

By Alcuin Papa

EIGHT kilos of shabu worth P16 million in the streets were found in an abandoned car in Quezon City last Thursday.

Chief Supt. Napoleon Castro, head of the Central Police District, said the drugs were recovered by members of CPD Station 5 at around 12:30 a.m.

According to a CPD report, PO2 Reynaldo Borje, PO3 Eduardo Dacalos, and PO1 Reynaldo Magtajas were on patrol in the Batasan area when they spotted a white Honda Civic (WHJ-515) parked on Regalado Avenue.

When the patrolmen were about to accost the vehicle's passengers, the man and woman inside the car left the vehicle and ran.

The policemen failed to collar the suspects.

When police opened the suspects' vehicle, they were surprised to find the illegal drugs stored in a backpack. *With a report from Mary Viel Marquez*

METROBRIEFS

Fire

THE HOUSE of Barangay Forbes Park Chair Jose Concepcion's brother was razed in a fire in Makati City on Friday. Another fire hit a community in Sta. Ana, Manila on the same day and left 90 families homeless. The Makati fire began at around 5:30 a.m. in the living room of Reynaldo Concepcion's house on Banaba Street, South Forbes Park. Arson investigators pegged property damage at P5 million. The fire was put out at 10:10 a.m. In Sta. Ana, the two-hour fire started at 6:02 a.m. in Rosita Torres' two-story house on Callejon Street, Pasigline. Thirty houses and about P7 million worth of property were destroyed in the fire that was put out at 8:02 a.m., an investigator said. *Leila Salaverria, Philip Tubeza*

Robbery

THE OUTBACK Restaurant in swank Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City was robbed by 8 armed men and 2 women Thursday night. Police said five of the suspects posed as customers and entered the restaurant. At 9 p.m., the suspects rose from their seats and announced the holdup, witnesses told police. They were then joined by their cohorts who were waiting outside Outback. The suspects took the cell phones, cash and jewelry of the customers and fled in a maroon Mercedes Benz and Toyota van. *Alcuin Papa*

Raid

A MAN was shot to death while three other men, including a police officer, were injured when vendors tried to fight off Videogram Regulatory Board authorities, who conducted an anti-piracy raid at the Midland Bazaar in Guadalupe Nuevo, Makati City on Wednesday. VCD vendor Mubarak Khali was declared dead at the Victor Potenciano Memorial Medical Center in Mandaluyong City, said PO2 Jason David. Injured were vendors Amradin Taher and Abu Gampong, and PO2 Francisco de Asis. Police are still trying to determine who fired the fatal shot. Police said the vendors believed the raid was not a legitimate operation, and that the 20-man VRB team were there to steal their wares. When the VRB team announced the raid at around 5 p.m., the vendors, who outnumbered the team, put up a fight and a free-for-all ensued. A shot rang out, and Khalid was found on the ground with a bullet in his abdomen. *Leila Salaverria*

Conviction

FOR SELLING shabu worth P200, Ramon Reyes and Peter Mendez were sentenced to life imprisonment by Judge Francisco Ibay of the Makati Regional Trial Court branch 135. Reyes, a welder, and Mendez, a tricycle driver, were also ordered each to pay P500,000 in fines. Members of Makati's drug enforcement unit and anti-drug abuse council arrested the two men in 2002. Reyes, 21, was arrested for selling 0.13 grams of shabu worth P200 to a policeman in Barangay Rizal. Mendez, 31, was hauled in for selling P200 worth of shabu to a lawman in Barangay Comembo. Reyes and Mendez denied that they sold shabu. *Leila Salaverria, Jamie Alarcon*

Murder

NESTOR E. Villanueva, 42, won big while playing *tong-its* (a card game) during the wake of a certain Oscar Lacson in Tondo, Manila. But he lost his life on Thursday when he tried to collect his winnings. Detective Virgo Villareal said Donato A. Clave, 50, a vendor and resident of Tondo, stabbed and killed Villanueva, also of Tondo, because the suspect had no money to pay the victim. Clave allegedly continued playing although he no longer had money. Villanueva got angry when Clave could not pay back the money he owed the victim. At around 10 p.m. on Thursday, Clave sneaked up on Villanueva and stabbed him to death. *Philip Tubeza*

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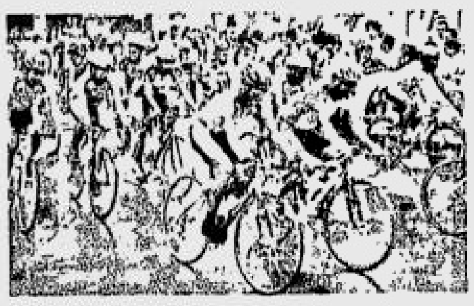
WHAT'S INSIDE



MILF could save Palaro A26
'TMac' not alone, gets ample support A28
Veteran shows 'em how in Tour opener A27

PBA gets tough on drug abusers

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TORION

THE PHILIPPINE Basketball Association, shocked and alarmed by the case of peppery point guard Jimwell Torion, who tested positive for shabu use, has vowed to adopt harsher measures against drug offenders in the league.

The PBA said it is set to come out with detailed guidelines to address its alarming drug issues that have claimed three of its superstars, the latest being Torion who has been banned indefinitely after traces of shabu were found in his urine.

League technical chief Perry Martinez yesterday said there are already measures in place when a player gets caught using prohibited substance.

He, however, admitted that the (PBA)

PBA/ A26

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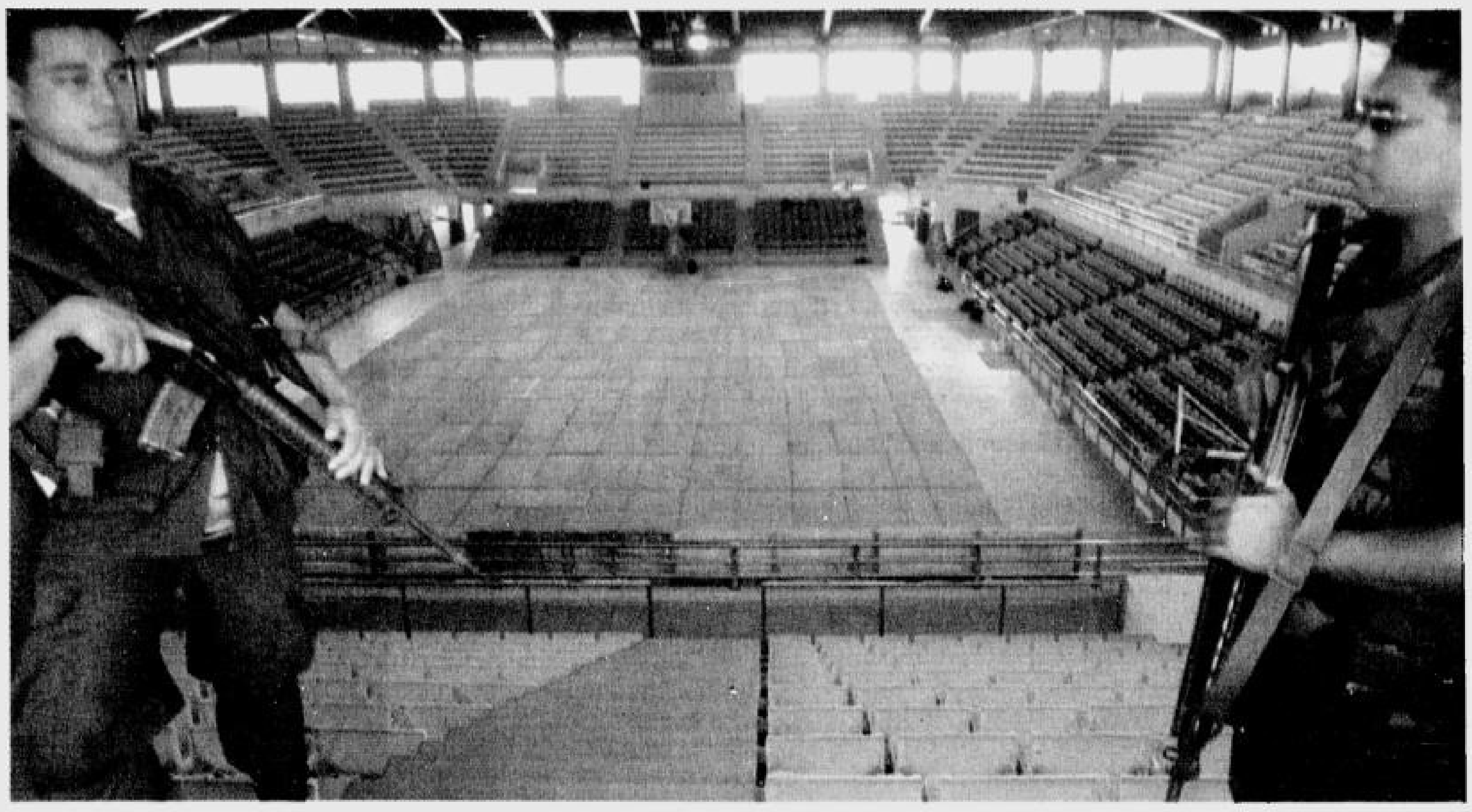


TIGHT SECURITY: Army soldiers guard the basketball venue of the Palaro in Tubod. EDWIN BACASMAS

MILF could save Palaro

Rebs' assurance to spare Lanao games sought

THE IMPERILED Palarong Pambansa may be staged as scheduled in Lanao del Norte but only if the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) would agree to keep peace in the province.

This possibility surfaced yesterday following reports that an assurance was being sought from the MILF for it not to disrupt the Palaro scheduled at the Maharlika Sports Complex in the capital town of Tubod on May 4-11.

Earlier, the Philippine National Police proposed the staging of the Palarong Pambansa outside of Lanao del Norte following the outbreak of clashes between government troops and secessionist rebels.

The clashes, which erupted after MILF rebels attacked Kolambugan and Maigo towns in the province on Thursday morning, left at least 16 people dead and several others wounded.

Maigo and Kolambugan are the two towns nearest the capital town of Tubod, the venue of the national games.

Philippine Sports Commission chair Eric Buhain had said the Palaro will definitely push through this year but added there was nothing definite yet as to the date and venue.

But reliable sources yesterday said the Palaro could be held in Lanao del Norte as scheduled if the MILF would accede to a formal request that it spare the province from hostilities at least during the Games.

The same sources did not identify the figure who made the request with the rebel group but said he was a very influential person.

It was also reported that MILF chair Hashim Salamat was looking kindly at the request. He is said to be a sports lover.

Meanwhile, the police and the military are scheduled to give their assessment tomorrow on whether Lanao del Norte is still fit to stage the 2003 Palarong Pambansa.

Lanao del Norte Gov. Imelda Quibranza-Dimaporo said they would rely on the Armed Forces and the Philippine National Police to give them the real score after new fighting broke out in the province.

Lanao del Norte, the Philippine Sports Commission and the Department of Education will then make their recommendation to President Arroyo.

Dimaporo said it is the President who will make the final decision on the Palaro.

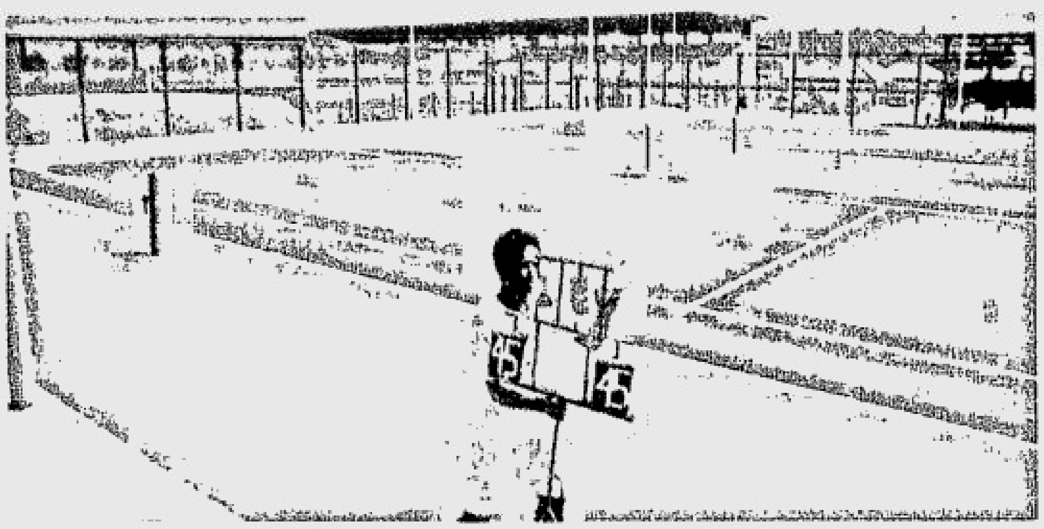
The province was looking at a grim prospect of losing the Palaro yet again following the outbreak of hostilities in two towns near Tubod, the main hub of competition.

Lanao del Norte, which made its first hosting bid in 1997, has been denied the honor three times already.

In 1997, it lost to Lingayen, Pangasinan and was forced to withdraw the following year due to the economic crunch that hit the Asian region.

PALARONG PAMBANSA
WELCOME
"Bridging the gap acros
RURAL TRANSIT
1486

EARLY BIRDS: Athletes from Tawi-Tawi pass the welcome arch for the Palaro as uncertainty caused by rebel attacks hangs over the national games. EDWIN BACASMAS



EMPTY courts await the arrival of tennis players. EDWIN BACASMAS

In 2000, the province blew it again after then President Joseph Estrada declared an all-out war against MILF which reduced Kauswagan town to a battle zone.

Last year, Dimaporo and her husband, Rep. Abdullah Dimaporo, agreed to give the hosting to Naga City upon the request of then DepEd Sec. Raul Roco.

Meanwhile, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao delegates have arrived in the province, according to local Palaro organizers, even as Region 3 promised to send its athletes once the province is cleared.

"We here at the PSC have a complete trust in the Armed Forces as well as the Philippine National Police," said Buhain. "Once we get the whole picture of the peace and order situation of the province, I will go back to Secretary De Jesus and present it to the regional directors."

The MILF, after launching two attacks on Thursday, reportedly threatened to wreck the long preparation for the Palaro.

But an assurance of peace from the MILF could save the Palaro in Lanao del Norte. *With reports from Marc Anthony Reyes*

Showtime in Cebu for Juicers

GAMES TODAY
(West Negros College Gym, Bacolod City)
2 p.m.—Nutri-licious vs ICTSI-Archers
4p.m.—Viva vs Hapee Toothpaste

CEBU CITY—With his father cheering at the stands, Nelbert Omolon decided it was show time.

The 6-foot-4 Omolon erupted for 36 points as Nutri-licious stunned Hapee Toothpaste in double overtime, 88-85, Friday night in the Sunkist-PBL Unity Cup at the Cebu Coliseum here.

The victory gave the Juicers the solo lead in the Luzon division with a 3-4 win-loss card. The Sparklers tasted only their second defeat in eight outings in the Visayas-Mindanao group. John O leads NCR with a similar 6-2 record.

"I want to treat my father (Gilbert) to a good game. I'm really delighted to see him around," said the 22-year-old Omolon, who played for the Philippine Christian University in the NCAA.

Omolon's businessman-father came all the way from Bukidnon to watch his son play for the Juicers, who thwarted the Sparklers' bid to become the first team to enter the semifinals.

This was the third time this conference that Nutri-licious experienced the heart-stopping ordeal of an overtime. American-trained Coach Monel Kallos' charges bowed to Blu Star Detergent in double overtime, 92-90, last March 27 at the Makati Coliseum.

Owing to its lack of maturity, Nutri-licious lost steam in the homestretch to bow to Viva Mineral Water, 71-68, also in overtime last April 10 at the Pasig Sports Center.

Despite their failure to win overtime games, Kallos, however, remained confident that the Juicers would survive Hapee's sting.

"I felt confident that we can win take this one. We're a young team and it's a matter of knowing how to react on a given situation. Our gameplan is followed to the letter," said Kallos, who is assisted by former PBA hotshot Carlito Mejos.

Defeat stared at the face of Nutri-licious when Hapee, bannered by the high-scoring Peter June Simon, erased a six-point deficit to force the first overtime, 74-74.

Hapee also recorded the PBL's all-time best of sinking all its 12 shots (field goal) in the first period.

The collapse, however, did not happen. Instead, it was Hapee, as magnified by Allan Salangsang's woeful 1 of 12 shooting from the three-point area, which failed to finish strong.

While praising Omolon for his gutsy showing, Kallos credited the teamwork and boundless energy for the win. "Going into a third overtime is welcome," Kallos said.

PBA gets tough . . .

From page A25

anti-drug policy is already outdated.

"Right now we are just relying on the discretion of the commissioner," Martinez told the INQUIRER. "But we are drafting strict measures and we'll come up with them by the second conference."

Commissioner Noli Eala, who was absent in the game held at the Ynares Center in Antipolo City yesterday, could not be reached for comment.

Martinez said the PBA plans to adopt the NBA policy which imposes a two-year ban on a player found to have used shabu or ecstacy. "They have a different standard with metamphetamine and ecstacy," he added.

He added that in the NBA, a marijuana first offender will just be required to undergo rehabilitation. Second offense would mean $15,000 fine without suspension, while two year-ban would be meted a player who made three offenses.

It was uncertain when Torion, who will reportedly undergo a six-month rehabilitation, would be allowed to rejoin his team, Red Bull.

He was found positive for shabu use following the mandatory random drug test conducted after the Red Bull-Ginebra match in Cebu last April 13.

Torion did admit to Red Bull team manager Tony Chua that he was invited by his old Cebuano friends to a party, where they later indulged in wild revelry.

"The good thing with him is that he did not try to fool me by offering excuses," Chua explained. "I admire him for that."

Chua stressed that Torion, apologetic, admitted his mistakes.

In a media statement, Red Bull announced it has also suspended Torion "until he can prove that he has already overcome his problem."

Red Bull added that, in the wake of the ugly incidents involving players, the team will embark on a serious crusade against drugs in sports.

"We must think of stricter policies against this problem which must be implemented immediately," the Red Bull statement said

It added Red Bull is behind the PBA in its crusade against drugs and will fully cooperate in all its programs.

Prior to the Torion case. Asi Taulava and Dorian Peña tested positive for marijuana use before the start of the 2003 PBA season.

The two were slapped two-game suspensions.

In their game against Talk 'N Text on Friday, Red Bull, minus the quick-footed Torion, lost in overtime, 96-98.

Coach Yeng Guiao of Red Bull said he had taken up the Torion case with the management, which vowed to go hard on the erring star "even though we have something at stake."

Guiao said they would be discussing the Torion case with Commissioner Eala to determine if stricter measures would be imposed.

Manila tops girls' softball

SAN PABLO CITY—Undefeated Manila came from behind anew to down Illam for the second time yesterday, escaping with a 5-3 decision to clinch the Big League 16-18 girls softball crown at the San Luis sports complex in Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

Regardless of the result of its remaining game against winless Nueva Ecija today in the three team bracket, Manila, bannered by crack UAAP players from Adamson and UST, will emerge with the best win-loss slate with three consecutive wins.

Illam, whose core is made up of the disbanded defending titlist Bulacan, suffered its second loss in three games and can only hope to finish runner-up by beating Nueva Ecija tomorrow.

Trailing 2-3 after five innings, the Manilans swung things around for good with a two-out, three-run explosion in the lower sixth starring May Ann Delmo.

The big-hitting Delmo drove in Joan Arguelles and Sarah Jane Agravante with a triple then followed them home minutes later as Manila duplicated its 7-3 conquest of ILLAM in their first meeting.

"*Malakas din ang kalaban pero kumpiyansa ako sa mga bata ko* (The opposition was strong but we're confident of winning)," Manila LL chapter president Robert Evangelista said.

In Senior League 14-16 boys baseball, host San Pablo City's march to the four-team crossover semifinal was temporarily halted when it lost to undefeated Nueva Ecija, 11-1 at the central school grounds here.

The locals were nowhere near their best when they stunned Tanauan City 8-4 earlier, and were a sorry sight as they could only master three hits against the Novo Ecijanos's eight.

Nueva Ecija maintained its leadership in Group B with its fourth straight win and assured itself of the first semifinal berth.

Meanwhile, Cebu and Makati notched their fourth straight victory to share top spot in Group A of the premier 11-12 Little League boys baseball. The Cebuanos toyed with their Bacolod neighbors, 13-2, while the Makati lads scalped the Ilocos boys, 18-6, to remain on course for semifinal slots.

In Big League 16-18 baseball, defending titlist Tanauan trounced erstwhile joint leader Makati, 13-4, to stay unscathed in four starts.

In the 11-12 girls softball in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, DepEd Bacolod demolished co-leader Mt. Province (3-1), 13-2, to remain undefeated in four games.

PBA games go off the air

By Roy Luarca

THE PHILIPPINE Basketball Association games have gone off the air, at least on radio.

Unable to lure advertisers for the radio broadcast of the games, the NBN-IBC merger has been constrained to hook up with the audio of the television broadcast since April 11.

This desperation move, however, has its drawbacks. For one, TV broadcast doesn't need graphic and detailed vocal description, much unlike the radio broadcast where listeners need to be thoroughly informed of the developments and given a feel of what's happening inside the court.

Also, the TV panelists usually do their thing in English while their radio counterparts do it in Taglish, which was preferred by more PBA viewers.

Aware of these problems, the PBA said it intends to compel the merger to resume the radio broadcast within the next month.

Willy Marcial, PBA media bureau chief, said the resumption of the radio broadcast will likely be in the agenda when the PBA board of governor convenes on Monday.

The main topic, of course, would be the parallel broadcast between the NBN and IBC.

Under the original set-up, it was Philradio, an affiliate of Channel 4, which was supposed to take care of the radio coverage finances. Its marketing arm, however, failed to find enough money to fund the radio broadcast.

Affected by the stoppage of the radio broadcast were panelists Noel Zarate, Raffy Sacdalan, Boyet Sison, Barry Pascua, BM Manalang and Caloy Inductivo.

A PBA insider, however, said they're likely to be retained when the radio coverage resumes.

The PBA radio coverage was also hooked up with the TV broadcast last year when the panelists went on strike due to unpaid salaries.

This time, the panelists received provisional payment up to March 9 and willingly went on board up to April 9 to give the marketing arm more time to look for sponsors.

To prevent more "bleeding,'" the panelists were finally told to stop broadcast on April 11.

The hook-up set-up apparently doesn't sit well with PBA fans as a visit to the Pinoy Exchange website revealed that PBA fans want the radio coverage back and that it enjoyed a high rating, especially during rush hours.

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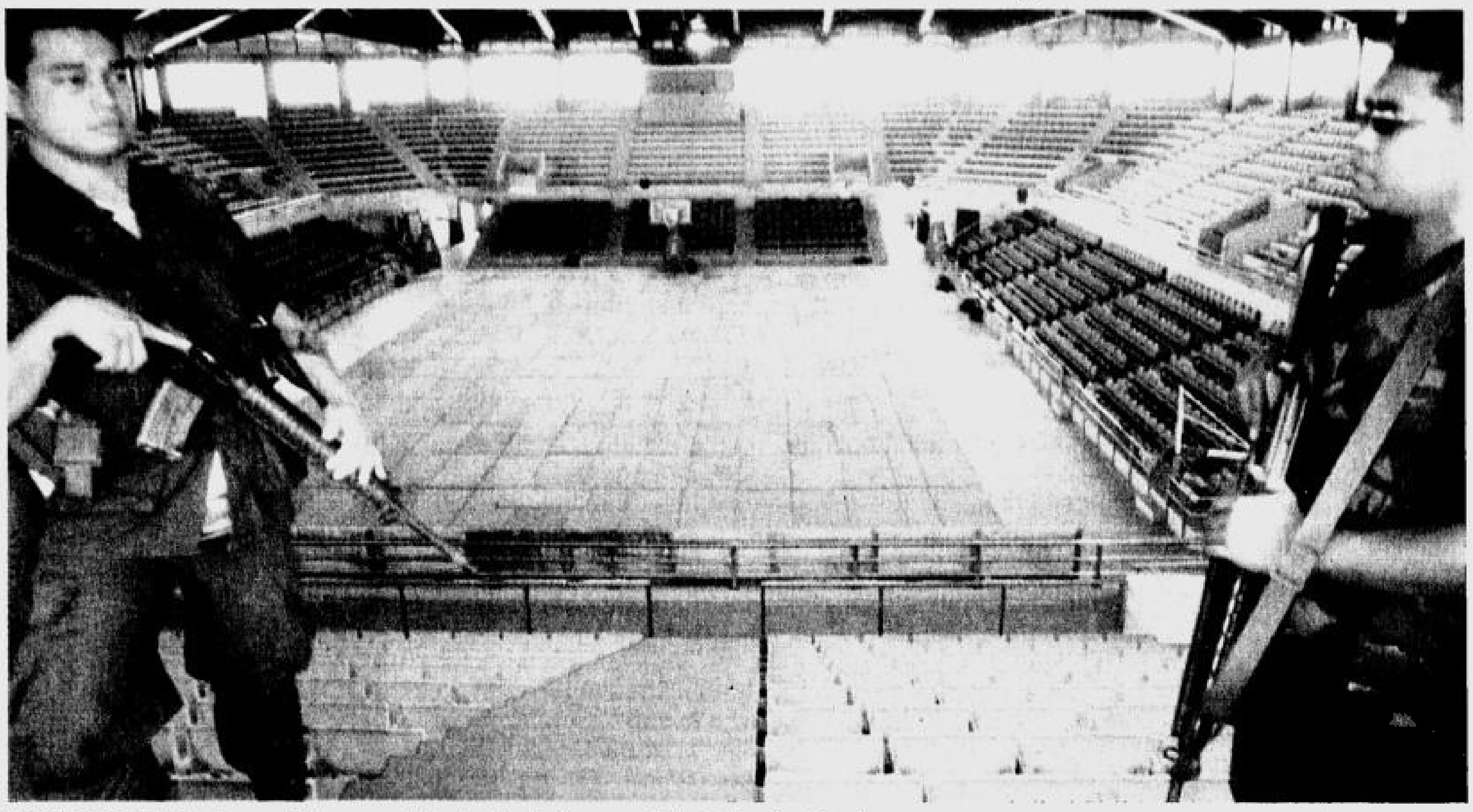

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The province was looking at a grim prospect of losing the Palaro yet again following the outbreak of hostilities in two towns near Tubod, the main hub of competition.

Lanao del Norte, which made its first hosting bid in 1997, has been denied the honor three times already.

In 1997, it lost to Lingayen, Pangasinan and was forced to withdraw the following year due to the economic crunch that hit the Asian region.

In 2000, the province blew it again after then President Joseph Estrada declared an all-out war against MILF which reduced Kauswagan town to a battle zone.

Last year, Dimaporo and her husband, Rep. Abdullah Dimaporo, agreed to give the hosting to Naga City upon the request of then DepEd Sec. Raul Roco.

Meanwhile, the Autonomous Region of Muslim Mindanao delegates have arrived in the province, according to local Palaro organizers, even as Region 3 promised to send its athletes once the province is cleared.

"We here at the PSC have a complete trust in the Armed Forces as well as the Philippine National Police," said Buhain. "Once we get the whole picture of the peace and order situation of the province, I will go back to Secretary De Jesus and present it to the regional directors."

The MILF, after launching two attacks on Thursday, reportedly threatened to wreck the long preparation for the Palaro.

But an assurance of peace from the MILF could save the Palaro in Lanao del Norte. *With reports from Marc Anthony Reyes*

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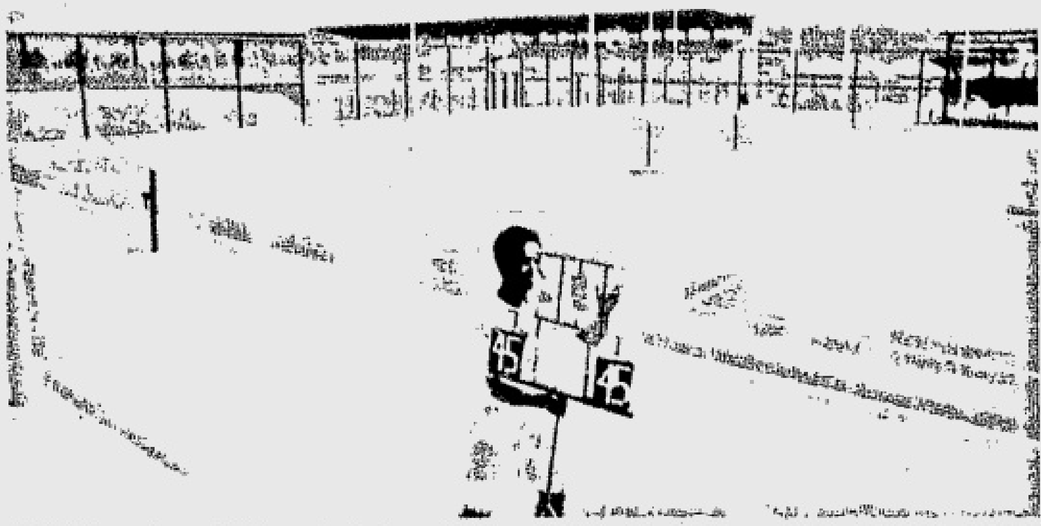
EARLY BIRDS: Athletes from Tawi-Tawi pass the welcome arch for the Palaro as uncertainty caused by rebel attacks hangs over the national games. EDWIN BACASMAS



EMPTY courts await the arrival of tennis players. EDWIN BACASMAS

Showtime in Cebu for Juicers

GAMES TODAY
(West Negros College Gym, Bacolod City)
2 p.m.—Nutri-licious vs ICTSI-Archers
4p.m.—Viva vs Hapee Toothpaste

CEBU CITY—With his father cheering at the stands, Nelbert Omolon decided it was show time.

The 6-foot-4 Omolon erupted for 36 points as Nutri-licious stunned Hapee Toothpaste in double overtime, 88-85, Friday night in the Sunkist-PBL Unity Cup at the Cebu Coliseum here.

The victory gave the Juicers the solo lead in the Luzon division with a 3-4 win-loss card. The Sparklers tasted only their second defeat in eight outings in the Visayas-Mindanao group. John O leads NCR with a similar 6-2 record.

"I want to treat my father (Gilbert) to a good game. I'm really delighted to see him around," said the 22-year-old Omolon, who played for the Philippine Christian University in the NCAA.

Omolon's businessman-father came all the way from Bukidnon to watch his son play for the Juicers, who thwarted the Sparklers' bid to become the first team to enter the semifinals.

This was the third time this conference that Nutri-licious experienced the heart-stopping ordeal of an overtime. American-trained Coach Monel Kallos' charges bowed to Blu Star Detergent in double overtime, 92-90, last March 27 at the Makati Coliseum.

Owing to its lack of maturity, Nutri-licious lost steam in the homestretch to bow to Viva Mineral Water, 71-68, also in overtime last April 10 at the Pasig Sports Center.

Despite their failure to win overtime games, Kallos, however, remained confident that the Juicers would survive Hapee's sting.

"I felt confident that we can win take this one. We're a young team and it's a matter of knowing how to react on a given situation. Our gameplan is followed to the letter," said Kallos, who is assisted by former PBA hotshot Carlito Mejos.

Defeat stared at the face of Nutri-licious when Hapee, bannered by the high-scoring Peter June Simon, erased a six-point deficit to force the first overtime, 74-74.

Hapee also recorded the PBL's all-time best of sinking all its 12 shots (field goal) in the first period.

The collapse, however, did not happen. Instead, it was Hapee, as magnified by Allan Salangsang's woeful 1 of 12 shooting from the three-point area, which failed to finish strong.

While praising Omolon for his gutsy showing, Kallos credited the teamwork and boundless energy for the win. "Going into a third overtime is welcome," Kallos said.

PBA gets tough . . .

From page A25

anti-drug policy is already outdated.

"Right now we are just relying on the discretion of the commissioner," Martinez told the INQUIRER. "But we are drafting strict measures and we'll come up with them by the second conference."

Commissioner Noli Eala, who was absent in the game held at the Ynares Center in Antipolo City yesterday, could not be reached for comment.

Martinez said the PBA plans to adopt the NBA policy which imposes a two-year ban on a player found to have used shabu or ecstacy. "They have a different standard with metamphetamine and ecstacy," he added.

He added that in the NBA, a marijuana first offender will just be required to undergo rehabilitation. Second offense would mean $15,000 fine without suspension, while two year-ban would be meted a player who made three offenses.

It was uncertain when Torion, who will reportedly undergo a six-month rehabilitation, would be allowed to rejoin his team, Red Bull.

He was found positive for shabu use following the mandatory random drug test conducted after the Red Bull-Ginebra match in Cebu last April 13.

Torion did admit to Red Bull team manager Tony Chua that he was invited by his old Cebuano friends to a party, where they later indulged in wild revelry.

"The good thing with him is that he did not try to fool me by offering excuses," Chua explained. "I admire him for that."

Chua stressed that Torion, apologetic, admitted his mistakes.

In a media statement, Red Bull announced it has also suspended Torion "until he can prove that he has already overcome his problem."

Red Bull added that, in the wake of the ugly incidents involving players, the team will embark on a serious crusade against drugs in sports.

"We must think of stricter policies against this problem which must be implemented immediately," the Red Bull statement said

It added Red Bull is behind the PBA in its crusade against drugs and will fully cooperate in all its programs.

Prior to the Torion case. Asi Taulava and Dorian Peña tested positive for marijuana use before the start of the 2003 PBA season.

The two were slapped two-game suspensions.

In their game against Talk 'N Text on Friday, Red Bull, minus the quick-footed Torion, lost in overtime, 96-98.

Coach Yeng Guiao of Red Bull said he had taken up the Torion case with the management, which vowed to go hard on the erring star "even though we have something at stake."

Guiao said they would be discussing the Torion case with Commissioner Eala to determine it stricter measures would be imposed.

Manila tops girls' softball

SAN PABLO CITY—Undefeated Manila came from behind anew to down Illam for the second time yesterday, escaping with a 5-3 decision to clinch the Big League 16-18 girls softball crown at the San Luis sports complex in Sta. Cruz, Laguna.

Regardless of the result of its remaining game against winless Nueva Ecija today in the three team bracket, Manila, bannered by crack UAAP players from Adamson and UST, will emerge with the best win-loss slate with three consecutive wins.

Illam, whose core is made up of the disbanded defending titlist Bulacan, suffered its second loss in three games and can only hope to finish runner-up by beating Nueva Ecija tomorrow.

Trailing 2-3 after five innings, the Manilans swung things around for good with a two-out, three-run explosion in the lower sixth starring May Ann Delmo.

The big-hitting Delmo drove in Joan Arguelles and Sarah Jane Agravante with a triple then followed them home minutes later as Manila duplicated its 7-3 conquest of ILLAM in their first meeting.

"*Malakas din ang kalaban pero kumpiyansa ako sa mga bata ko* (The opposition was strong but we're confident of winning)," Manila LL chapter president Robert Evangelista said.

In Senior League 14-16 boys baseball, host San Pablo City's march to the four-team crossover semifinal was temporarily halted when it lost to undefeated Nueva Ecija, 11-1 at the central school grounds here.

The locals were nowhere near their best when they stunned Tanauan City 8-4 earlier, and were a sorry sight as they could only master three hits against the Novo Ecijanos's eight.

Nueva Ecija maintained its leadership in Group B with its fourth straight win and assured itself of the first semifinal berth.

Meanwhile, Cebu and Makati notched their fourth straight victory to share top spot in Group A of the premier 11-12 Little League boys baseball. The Cebuanos toyed with their Bacolod neighbors, 13-2, while the Makati lads scalped the Ilocos boys, 18-6, to remain on course for semifinal slots.

In Big League 16-18 baseball, defending titlist Tanauan trounced erstwhile joint leader Makati, 13-4, to stay unscathed in four starts.

In the 11-12 girls softball in Sta. Cruz, Laguna, DepEd Bacolod demolished co-leader Mt. Province (3-1), 13-2, to remain undefeated in four games.

PBA games go off the air

By Roy Luarca

THE PHILIPPINE Basketball Association games have gone off the air, at least on radio.

Unable to lure advertisers for the radio broadcast of the games, the NBN-IBC merger has been constrained to hook up with the audio of the television broadcast since April 11.

This desperation move, however, has its drawbacks. For one, TV broadcast doesn't need graphic and detailed vocal description, much unlike the radio broadcast where listeners need to be thoroughly informed of the developments and given a feel of what's happening inside the court.

Also, the TV panelists usually do their thing in English while their radio counterparts do it in Taglish, which was preferred by more PBA viewers.

Aware of these problems, the PBA said it intends to compel the merger to resume the radio broadcast within the next month.

Willy Marcial, PBA media bureau chief, said the resumption of the radio broadcast will likely be in the agenda when the PBA board of governor convenes on Monday.

The main topic, of course, would be the parallel broadcast between the NBN and IBC.

Under the original set-up, it was Philradio, an affiliate of Channel 4, which was supposed to take care of the radio coverage finances. Its marketing arm, however, failed to find enough money to fund the radio broadcast.

Affected by the stoppage of the radio broadcast were panelists Noel Zarate, Raffy Saedalan, Boyet Sison, Barry Pascua, BM Manalang and Caloy Inductivo.

A PBA insider, however, said they're likely to be retained when the radio coverage resumes.

The PBA radio coverage was also hooked up with the TV broadcast last year when the panelists went on strike due to unpaid salaries.

This time, the panelists received provisional payment up to March 9 and willingly went on board up to April 9 to give the marketing arm more time to look for sponsors.

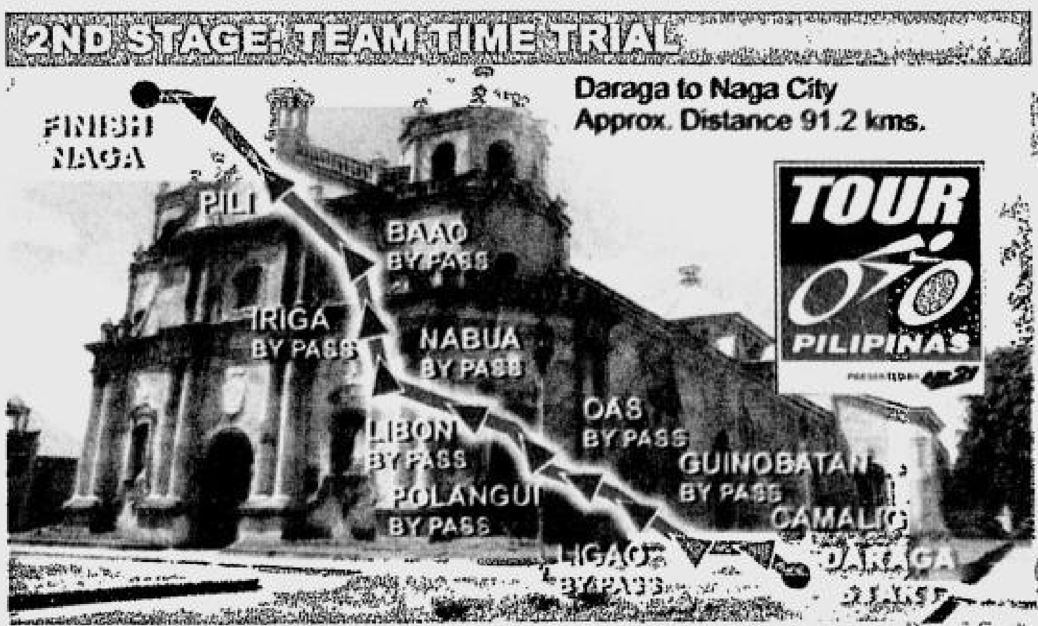
To prevent more "bleeding," the panelists were finally told to stop broadcast on April 11.

The hook-up set-up apparently doesn't sit well with PBA fans as a visit to the Pinoy Exchange website revealed that PBA fans want the radio coverage back and that it enjoyed a high rating, especially during rush hours.

– BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Veteran shows 'em how in Tour opener

By June Navarro



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Known for his aggressive riding, Quirimit credited Ramos of Samsung for helping him sustain a breakaway the two pulled off some 50 km from the finish line.

"*Nagtulungan kaming dalawa kaya hindi kami masyadong nahirapan sa akyatan* (We took turns setting a strong pace especially in the mountains)," said the 24-year-old Quirimit from Pozzorubio, Pangasinan.

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Placido Valdez and Benito Lopez arrived together just four seconds behind Quinones with Santi Barnachea, who paced the lead pack for the most part of the race, struggling home another four seconds behind the two.

The rest of the big guns checked in with the 13-man seventh group that former champion Rolando Pagnanawon towed to the finish, 6:20 behind the lap winner.

In this star-studded pack were tour favorites and former winners Warren Davadilla of Intel and Carlo Guieb of Eco Savers and promising youngsters Lloyd Reynante and Rhyan Tanguilig of Pagcor.

Renato Dolosa of Gilbey's Island Punch, a two-time champion like Guieb, failed to keep up with his peers, however. He wheeled home 8:54 behind Quirimit in the company of 10 others.

Quinones' third place finish lifted Patrol 117 to the early lead in the team race where a whooping purse of P1 million awaits the winner. Patrol had a best four-man time of 18:37:50.8.

The VAT Riders took second with a time of 18:38.31.5 while Intel was third with 18:41:58.2.

Quirimit and Ramos scampered away from the main pack in the uphill approach to Tabaco City from Ligao, Albay.

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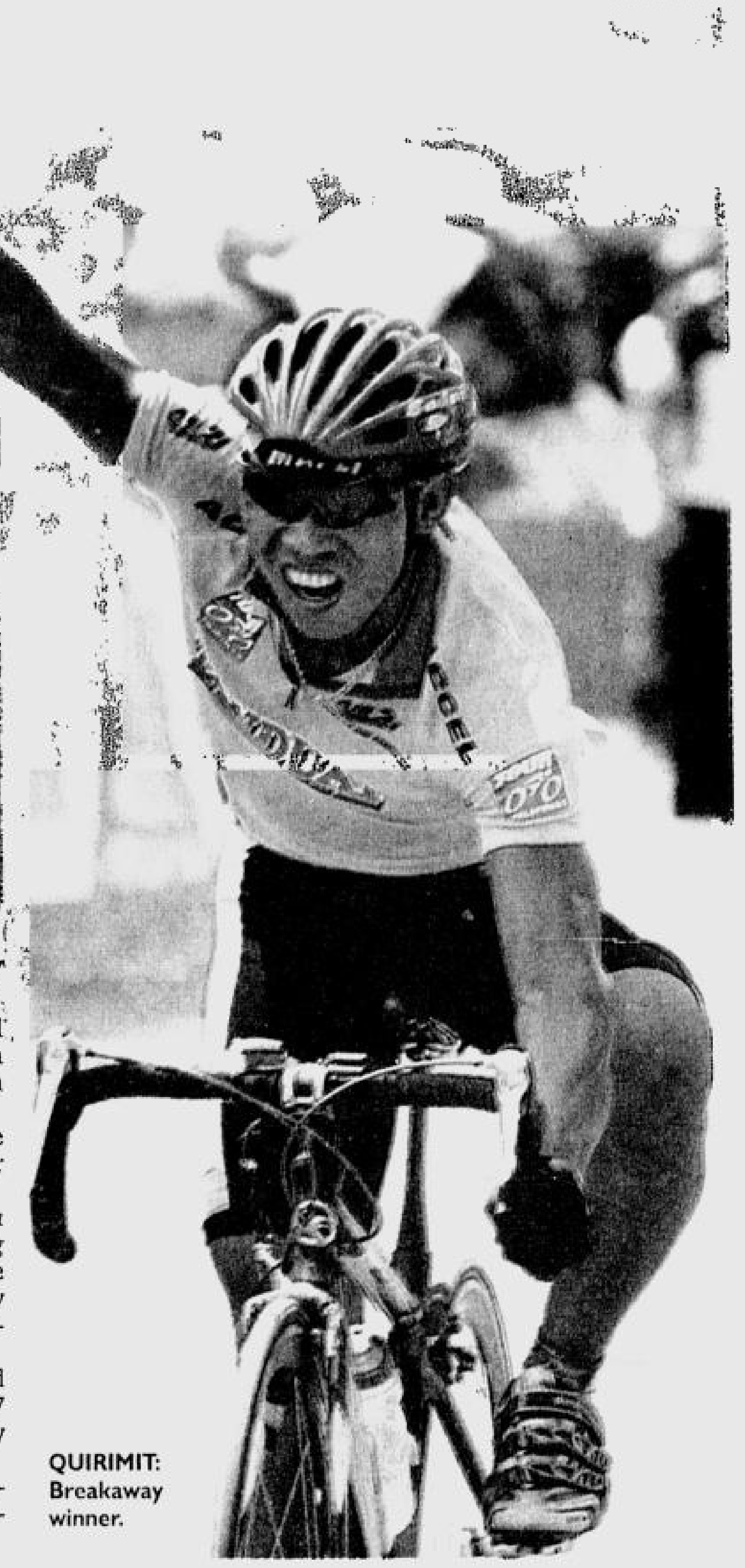

QUIRIMIT: Breakaway winner.

OFF THEY GO: Mass start in Legazpi.

VAL HANDUMON

First Lap Results

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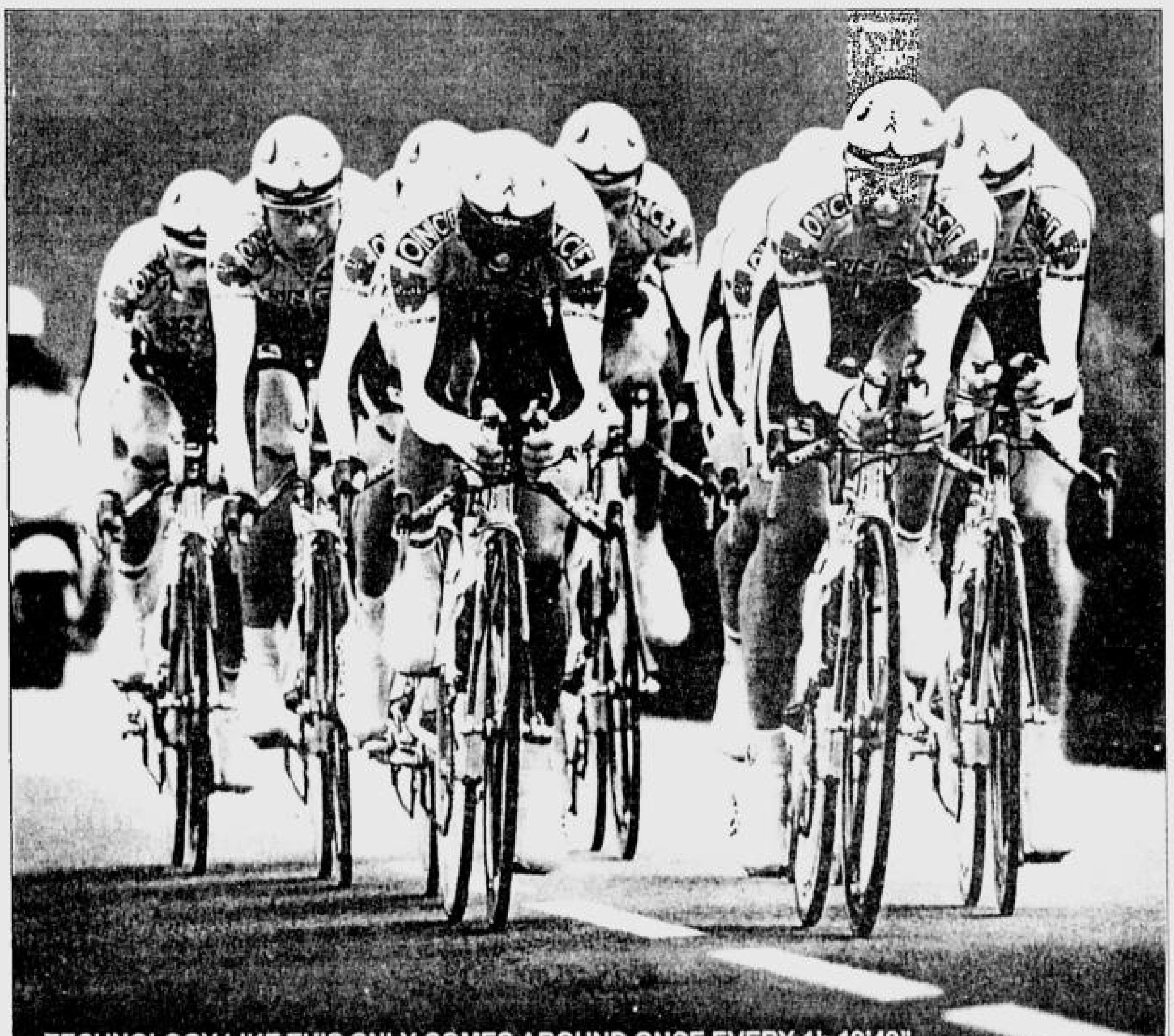
5	Lopez, Benito	(VR)	same -
6	Barnachea, Santi	(BG)	04h35'40"
7	Gorrantes, Ronald	(ECO)	04h38'48"
8	Pagnanawon, Rolan	(BG)	04h39'03"
9	Espino, Arnel	(PAG)	same -
10	Valdez, Rodelio	(SAM)	same -
11	Davadilla, Warren	(INT)	same -
12	Domingo, Enrique	(POST)	same -
13	Guieb, Carlo	(ECO)	same -
14	Reynante, Lloyd	(PAG)	same -
15	Alagano, Fernando	(INT)	same -
16	Bucay, Arthur	(INT)	same -
17	Diamsay, Sherwin	(VR)	same -
18	Gorantes, Reinhard	(PAT)	same -
19	Tanguilig, Rhyan	(PAG)	same -
20	Calderon, Joel	(VR)	same -
21	Dolosa, Renato	(GIL)	04h41'37"
22	Curtain, Paterno	(ECO)	same -
23	Amar, Gerry	(PAT)	same -
24	Luzon, Bernard	(PAT)	same -
25	Muena, Virgilio	(PLDT)	04h44'12"
26	Bacudo, Jessie (PLDT)	04h44'18"	
27	Espiritu, Oscar	(TAN)	04h44'35"
28	Calosa, Wilfredo	(POST)	same -
29	Marcelo, Arnold	(POST)	04h44'48"
30	Galdonez, Razon	(INT)	same -
31	Primero, Albert	(PLDT)	same -
32	Garcia, Jesus	(TAN)	same -
33	Celeste, Felix	(VR)	same -
34	Mendoza, Dionisio	(BG)	same -
35	Manapol, Paulo	(INT)	same -
36	Talaver, Joffrey	(BG)	same -
37	Estayo, Nilo	(INT)	04h46'07"
38	Posilero, Dionisio	(PAT)	same -
39	Casaljay, Ruel	(GIL)	same -
40	Villanueva, June	(PAG)	same -
41	Gonowon, Michael	(BG)	same -
42	Jazul, Carlo	(ECO)	same -
43	Servino, Joseph	(PAT)	same -
44	Reyes, Michael	(INT)	same -
45	Mapa, Alfredo	(BG)	same -
46	Fronda, Oscar	(PLDT)	same -
47	Bayuga, Avelino	(VR)	same -
48	Catalan, Alfie	(BG)	same -
49	Sambrano, Renato	(POST)	same -
50	Mendoza, Manuel	(SAM)	same -
51	Obosa, Ericson	(TAN)	same -
52	Ganigan, Danny	(SAM)	same -
53	Feliciano, Frederick	(DB)	04h47'02"
54	Tolentino, Eric	(TAN)	same -
55	Atilano, Lito	(GIL)	04h49'14"
56	Guillen, Joel	(PAG)	same -
57	Jacob, Dominador	(TAN)	04h49'20"
58	Mendoza, Ryan	(PAT)	same -
59	Dela Cruz, Art	(DB)	04h49'45"
60	Tolentino, Jay	(PAG)	04h50'56"
61	Tacu-Tacu, Dominador	(SAM)	04h51'14"
62	Del Rosario, Noli	(PLDT)	same
63	Hardin, Desi	(GIL)	same -
64	Navarro, Reynaldo	(POST)	same -
65	Millanes, Joseph	(TAN)	same -
66	Ramos, Nicanor	(PAG)	same -
67	Marmol, Benigno	(GIL)	04h52'18"
68	Ladra, Hilario	(ECO)	04h52'33"
69	Robosa, Marcial	(VR)	same -
70	Atizado, Norberto	(DB)	same -
71	Rendole, Oscar	(DB)	same -
72	Espiritu, Virgilio	(ECO)	04h52'43"
73	Asuncion, Reynaldo	(GIL)	same -
74	Justiniano, Michael	(ECO)	04h54'12"

TEAM RESULTS

PL	TEAM	TIME
1	Patrol 117	18hrs 37'50.8
2	Vat Riders	18hrs 38'31.5
3	Intel	18hrs 41'58.2
4	Pagcor	18hrs 43'17.6
5	Samsung	18hrs 44'05.3
6	Bowling Gold	18hrs 44'20.2
7	Eco Savers	18hrs 45'36.7
8	Tanduay Distillers	18hrs 48'13.7
9	Postmen	18hrs 54'34.1
10	PLDT-NDD	18hrs 59'26.6
11	Drug Busters	19hrs 04'58.1
12	Gilbeys Island Punch	19hrs 08'14.2



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Veteran shows 'em how in Tour opener

By June Navarro

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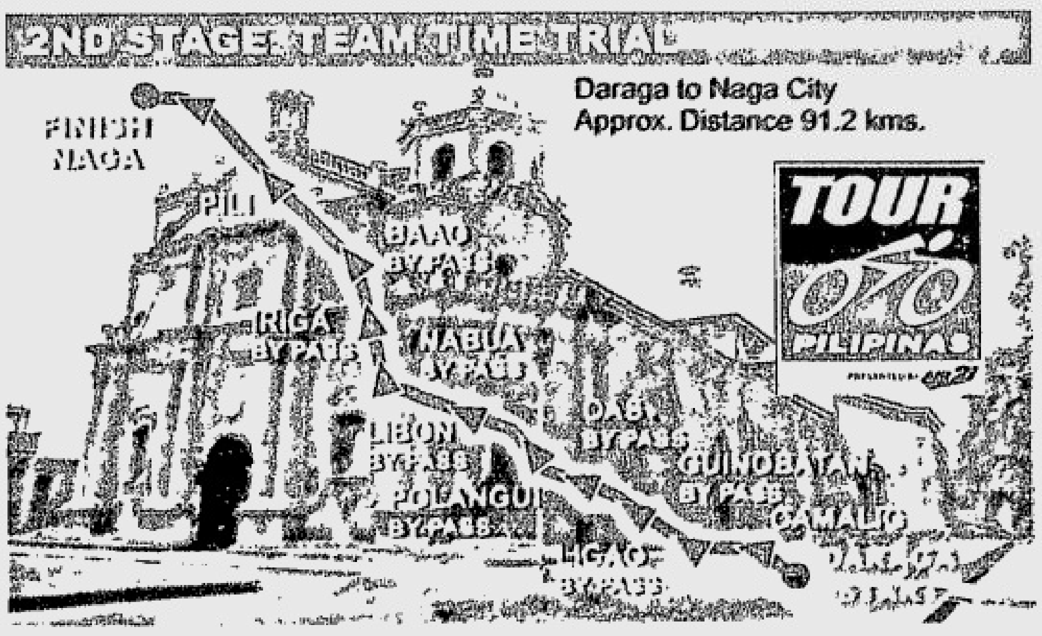

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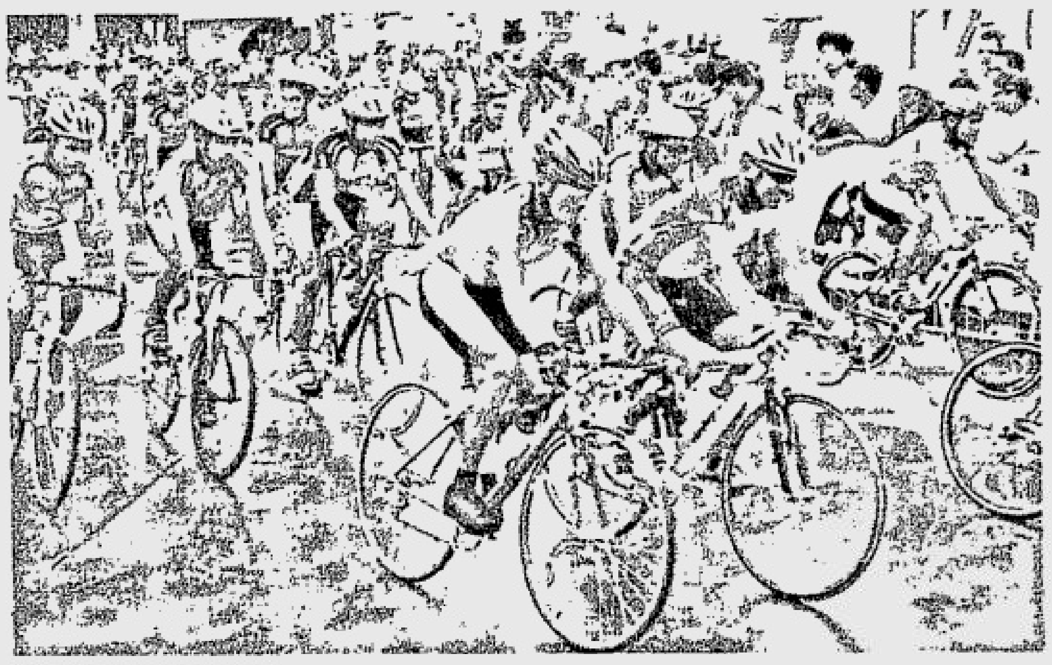

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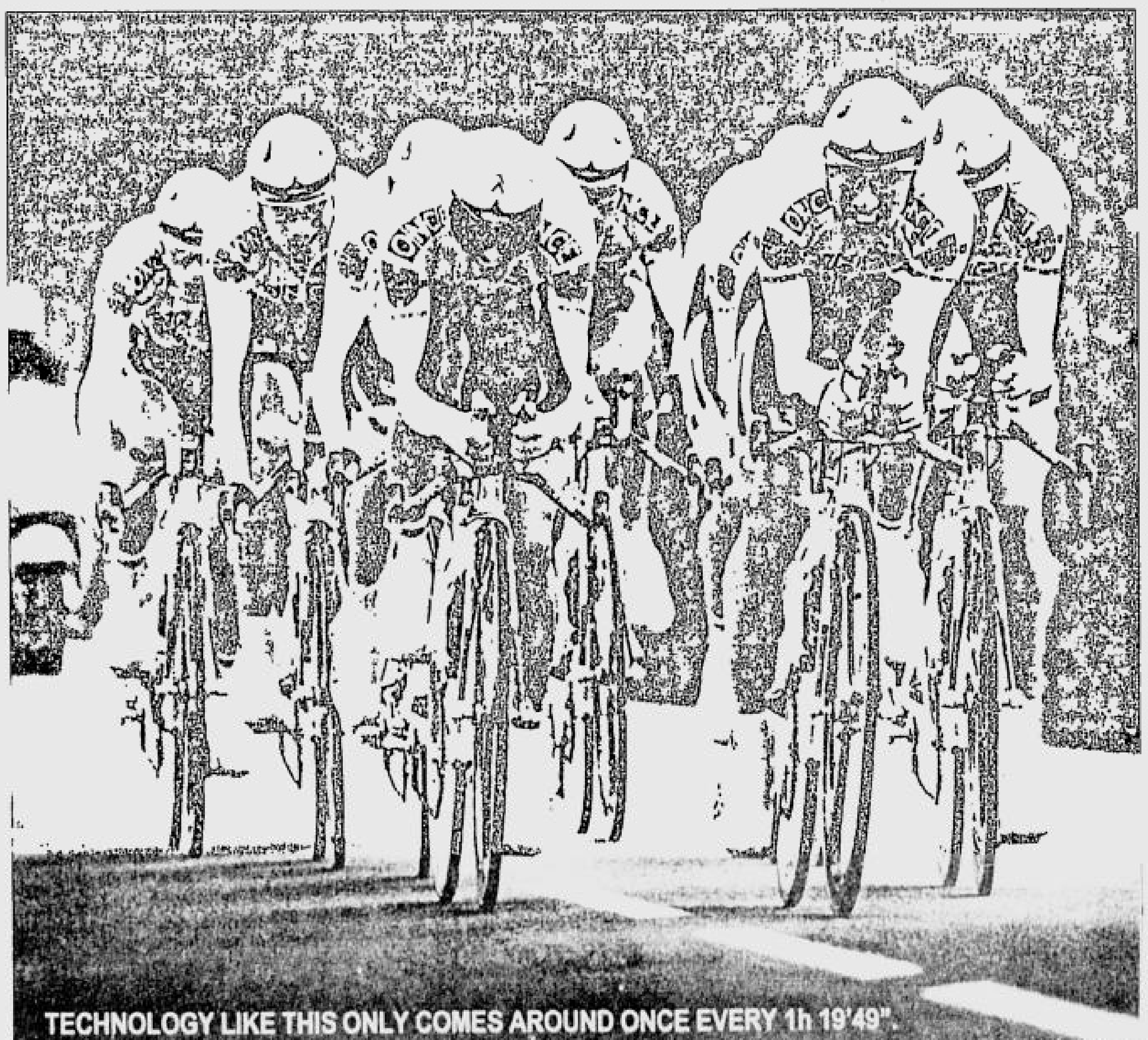
39	Casaljay, Ruel	(GIL)	same -
40	Villanueva, June	(PAG)	same -
41	Gonowon, Michael	(BG)	same -
42	Jazul, Carlo	(ECO)	same -
43	Servino, Joseph	(PAT)	same -
44	Reyes, Michael	(INT)	same -
45	Mapa, Alfredo	(BG)	same -
46	Fronda, Oscar	(PLDT)	same -
47	Bayuga, Avelino	(VR)	same -
48	Catalan, Alfie	(BG)	same -
49	Sambrano, Renato	(POST)	same -
50	Mendoza, Manuel	(SAM)	same -
51	Obosa, Ericson	(TAN)	same -
52	Ganigan, Danny	(SAM)	same -
53	Feliciano, Frederick	(DB)	04h47'02"
54	Tolentino, Eric	(TAN)	same -
55	Atilano, Lito	(GIL)	04h49'14"
56	Guillen, Joel	(PAG)	same -
57	Jacob, Dominador	(TAN)	04h49'20"
58	Mendoza, Ryan	(PAT)	same -
59	Dela Cruz, Art	(DB)	04h49'45"
60	Tolentino, Jay	(PAG)	04h50'56"
61	Tacu-Tacu, Dominador	(SAM)	04h51'14"
62	Del Rosario, Noli	(PLDT)	same
63	Hardin, Desi	(GIL)	same -
64	Navarro, Reynaldo	(POST)	same -
65	Millanes, Joseph	(TAN)	same -
66	Ramos, Nicanor	(PAG)	same -
67	Marmol, Benigno	(GIL)	04h52'18"
68	Ladra, Hilario	(ECO)	04h52'33"
69	Robosa, Marcial	(VR)	same -
70	Atizado, Norberto	(DB)	same -
71	Rendoie, Oscar	(DB)	same -
72	Espiritu, Virgilio	(ECO)	04h52'43"
73	Asuncion, Reynaldo	(GIL)	same -
74	Justiniano, Michael	(ECO)	04h54'12"

TEAM RESULTS

PL	TEAM	TIME
1	Patrol 117	18hrs 37'50.8
2	Vat Riders	18hrs 38'31.5
3	Intel	18hrs 41'58.2
4	Pagcor	18hrs 43'17.6
5	Samsung	18hrs 44'05.3
6	Bowling Gold	18hrs 44'20.2
7	Eco Savers	18hrs 45'36.7
8	Tanduay Distillers	18hrs 48'13.7
9	Postmen	18hrs 54'34.1
10	PLDT-NDD	18hrs 59'26.6
11	Drug Busters	19hrs 04'58.1
12	Gilbeys Island Punch	19hrs 08'14.2



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AT A GLANCE

NBA PLAYOFFS 2003

EASTERN CONFERENCE

(1) Detroit vs. (8) Orlando

Magic 2, Pistons 1
Game 1: Orlando 99, Detroit 94
Game 2: Detroit 89, Orlando 77
Game 3: Orlando 89, Detroit 80
Game 4 at Orlando (April 28)

(2) New Jersey vs (7) Milwaukee

Nets 2, Bucks 1
Game 1: New Jersey 109, Milwaukee 96
Game 2: Milwaukee 88, New Jersey 85
Game 3: New Jersey 103, Milwaukee 101
Game 4 at Milwaukee (April 27)

(3) Indiana vs (6) Boston

Pacers 1, Celtics 2
Game 1: Boston 103, Indiana 100
Game 2: Indiana 89, Boston 77
Game 3: Boston 101, Indiana 83
Game 4 at Boston (April 28)

(4) Philadelphia vs (8) N. Orleans

Sixers 2, Hornets 0,
Game 1: Philadelphia 98, New Orleans 90
Game 2: Philadelphia 90, New Orleans 85
Game 3 at Philadelphia (April 27)

WESTERN CONFERENCE

(1) San Antonio vs (8) Phoenix

Spurs 2, Suns 1
Game 1 Phoenix 96, San Antonio 95 (OT)
Game 2: San Antonio 84, Phoenix 76
Game 3: San Antonio 99, Phoenix 86
Game 4 at Phoenix (April 28)

(2) Sacramento vs (7) Utah

Kings 2, Jazz 0
Game 1: Sacramento 96, Utah 90
Game 2: Sacramento 108, Utah 95
Game 3 at Utah (April 27)

(3) Dallas vs (6) Portland

Mavs 3, Blazers 0
Game 1: Dallas 96, Portland 86
Game 2: Dallas 103, Portland 99
Game 3: Dallas 115, Portland 103
Game 4 at Portland (April 28)

(4) Minnesota vs. (5) LA Lakers

Wolves 2, Lakers 1
Game 1: LA Lakers 117, Minnesota 98
Game 2: Minnesota 119, LA Lakers 91
Game 3: Minnesota 114, LA Lakers 110
Game 4 at Los Angeles (April 28)

Mavs push Blazers on the brink

WASHINGTON—The Dallas Mavericks pushed the Portland Trail Blazers to the brink of elimination from the National Basketball Association playoffs on Friday, as San Antonio and Orlando edged ahead in their first-round series.

Germany's Dirk Nowitzki scored 16 of his 42 points in the fourth quarter as the Mavericks took a commanding 3-0 lead in their Western Conference first-round series with a 115-103 victory over the Blazers in Portland.

Dallas has won nine straight first-round games and sent Portland to its 10th consecutive postseason loss. The Mavericks can wrap up a third straight trip to the conference semi-finals with a win on Sunday in Game Four.

THE SACRAMENTO Kings try to make it three in a row against the Utah Jazz today (Sunday, April 27) in Game Three of their first round NBA Playoffs series live at 10 a.m. on Solar Sports. Replay will be at 8 p.m.

After trailing throughout, Portland got two free throws from Zach Randolph with 32 seconds left in the third quarter to take its first lead at 85-84. That only served as a wakeup call for Nowitzki, who fell just shy of his team playoff-record 46-point effort in Game One.

Nowitzki made his first five shots of the fourth quarter, including a three-pointer for a 94-89 advantage with eight minutes remaining. He hit another shot from beyond the arc for a 99-93 lead with 6:32 to go.

After a free throw by Portland's Ruben Patterson, Nowitzki again found himself open on the perimeter and drilled another three-pointer as Rasheed Wallace flew by to give the Mavericks a 102-94 edge. It prompted a 20-second timeout by the Trail Blazers.

The break did nothing to slow Nowitzki, who dunked off a feed from Nick Van Exel and completed a three-point play for a 107-95 cushion with 5:10 to play.

Ruben Patterson scored 18 of his playoff career-high 19 points in the first half for Portland, which has not won in the postseason since defeating the Los Angeles Lakers in Game Six of the 2000 conference finals.

Spurs 99, Suns 86

In Phoenix, San Antonio also relied on a European import as France's Tony Parker scored 29 points to lead the Spurs to a 99-86 victory over the Suns.

Dominated by Stephon Marbury in the first two games of their Western Conference first-round series, Parker this time filled the scoring gap left as the Suns limited Spurs forward Tim Duncan to 11 points on 3-of-6 shooting.

Duncan, a Most Valuable Player candidate, still nabbed 23 rebounds to help San Antonio control the glass 51-35.

Stephen Jackson added 20 points and Malik Rose had 15 for the Spurs, who regained home-court advantage and took a 2-1 lead in the best-of-seven series.

Parker, who totaled nine points in the first two games, scored 13 in the first quarter as San Antonio opened a 25-18 lead. Jackson put the Spurs ahead for good, 10-8, with a jumper with 7:23 left in the period.

The Spurs extended the lead to 53-36 at halftime and took a 69-56 advantage into the fourth quarter. They were in front by as many as 21 points early in the final period before Phoenix pulled within 10 in the last two minutes.

Marbury scored 25 points, Shawn Marion chipped in 18 and NBA Rookie of the Year Amare Stoudemire 17 for the Suns, but the rest of the team combined for just 26.

Magic 89, Pistons 80

In Orlando, Tracy McGrady's Magic teammates finally gave their superstar some help in an 89-80 victory over Eastern Conference top seeds Detroit.

McGrady scored 29 points but received plenty of offensive support as the Magic took a 2-1 lead in the series.

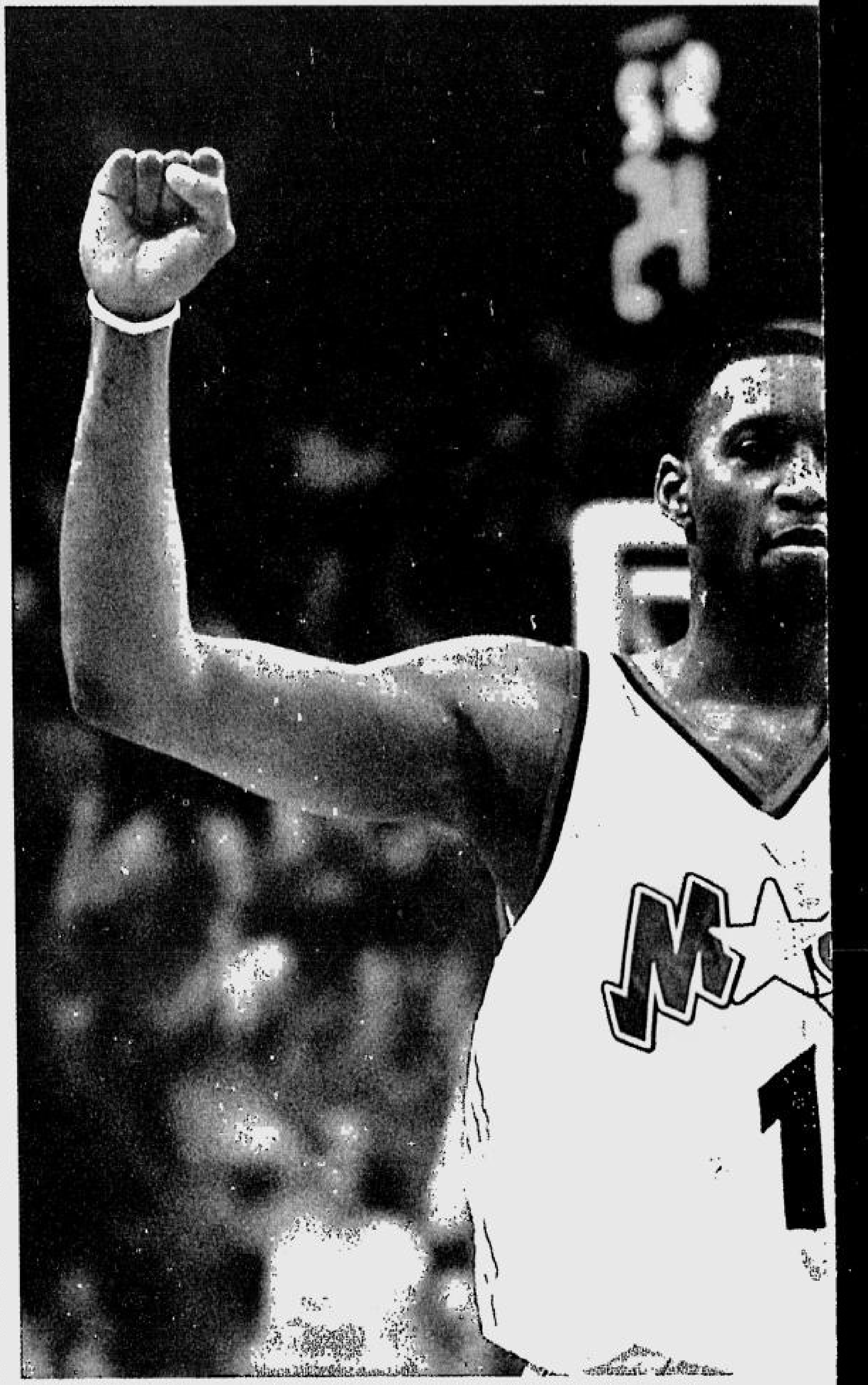
Darrell Armstrong chipped in 20 points and Drew Gooden had 15 before fouling out with 1:11 left for the Magic, who got 46 from McGrady but just 31 from the rest of the team in Wednesday's game two defeat.

"The last game was unacceptable, with Tracy scoring 46 and the rest of us scoring what we did," Gooden said.

In Orlando's victory in the series opener, McGrady scored 43 points and his teammates combined for 56.

After Richard Hamilton's jumper gave Detroit a 54-53 lead with 8:04 left in the third quarter, rookie Gordan Giricek countered with a three-pointer to give the Magic the lead for good and spark a 14-2 run.

McGrady's dunk with 3:12 to go in the period capped the run, during which Giricek contributed eight points. He scored all of his 10 points in the third quarter. *AFP*



MCGRADY holds his arms up after sinking a three-pointer late in the fourth period.

‘TMac’ not alone, g

ORLANDO, Florida—The Orlando Magic, a one-man show? Hardly.

Two days after being collectively outscored by teammate Tracy McGrady, Orlando's supporting cast provided the superstar guard with the help he needed as the Magic defeated the Detroit Pistons 89-80 Friday night to take a 2-1 lead in their first-round playoff series.

Backing up McGrady's 29 points was Darrell Armstrong's 20 points, eight assists and six rebounds, and Drew Gooden's 15 points and seven rebounds. Gordan Giricek snapped out of a slump to score 10 points, all in a crucial third-quarter burst.

"For those guys to play like that, man, that can carry us a long way in the playoffs," said McGrady, who fell short of a third straight 40-point game. "I told them (Thursday) to go out there and play the game, don't change it for me. And they did a great job of that.

"If they continue to play like that, I really don't have to do much."

In a loss at Detroit on Wednesday, McGrady had 46 points and everyone else 31. That embarrassment made the Game 3 victory sweeter for Armstrong.

Ridiculous

"It's ridiculous when you hear people talk about this as a one-man team," said Armstrong, who made his first five shots. "He's definitely our guy, definitely the guy who got us here—but other guys are setting picks to get him open, too."

For Detroit, Richard Hamilton scored 22 points on 7-of-22 shooting while Corliss Williamson added 16 off the bench. Ben Wallace set a playoff career-best with 22 rebounds.

The Pistons sho
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Tyson status questionable

LOS ANGELES—Mike Tyson is listening to offers from Don King, the wily promoter the fighter vowed never to work with again, and his status is questionable for a June 21 fight card here that also includes Lennox Lewis.

Tyson was to have signed a deal to face Oleg Maskaev of Kazakhstan at the 18,000-seat Staples Center on the same night Britain's Lewis makes a return to the ring after more than a year's layoff to face Canadian Kirk Johnson.

But Shelly Finkel, Tyson's manager, confirmed to boxing web site MaxBoxing that Tyson was listening to offers from King despite the fact Tyson is suing King for 100 million dollars in a case scheduled to go to trial in September.

King reportedly has offered Tyson up to $20 million to drop the lawsuit and renew their alliance from a decade ago, one that ended with Tyson suing King over money he says was wrongfully taken from 1990s purses.

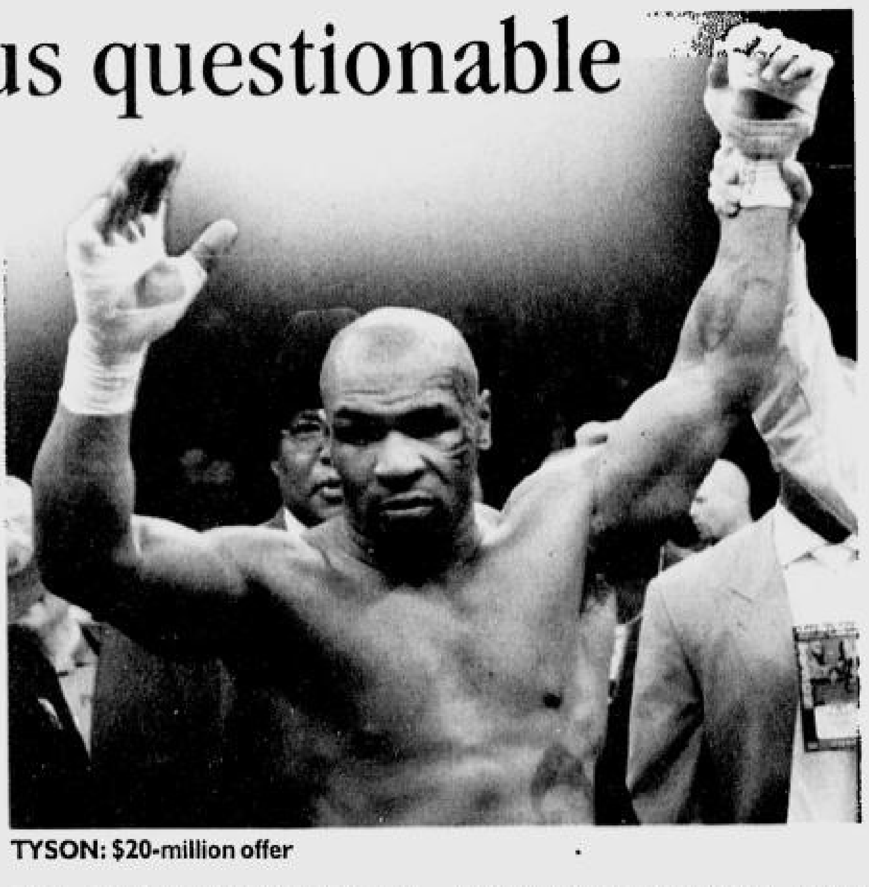
Tyson has been named a possible foe for World Boxing Council champion Lewis as well as Roy Jones, the light-heavyweight champion who won the World Boxing Association heavyweight title from King-backed fighter John Ruiz last month.

Losing Tyson would take much of the luster from the Lewis-Johnson clash, which the Staples Center reportedly paid more than seven million dollars to land.

The site was finalized only after California state athletic officials agreed in principle to award Tyson a license to fight in the state, something he was denied in New Jersey.

Tyson, reportedly set to receive $7 million to fight here, said he needs at least another tuneup fight before considering a big-money rematch with Lewis, who knocked out Tyson in the eighth round last June in Memphis.

Ticket prices were not announced for the fight because they will rise if Tyson is added to the card. Those sales are set to begin May 3, Tyson's fate must be decided within a week. *AFP*



TYSON: $20-million offer

Arizona pitcher banne

NEW YORK—Arizona Diamondbacks pitcher Miguel Batista was suspended for 10 games and fined an undisclosed amount for inciting a bench-clearing brawl by throwing a ball at the head of batter Tino Martinez.

Major League Baseball vice-president Bob Watson handed down the punishment here Friday as part of a host of banishments in the wake of last Sunday's brawl between the Diamondbacks and the St. Louis Cardinals.

Batista has appealed the suspension and kept his place in the rotation for a Friday game against the New York Mets.

Martinez was suspended four games and fined an undisclosed amount for charging the mound and fighting. He also is expected to appeal.

Reliever Jeff Fassero was suspended three games and fined an undisclosed amount for intentionally throwing and hitting Luis Gonzalez after a warning had been issued. His suspension is scheduled to begin Wednesday.

St. Louis manager Tony La Russa was suspended one game and fined
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Mussina sparkles in Ya

NEW YORK—Mike Mussina became major league baseball's first five-game winner on Friday as he pitched eight innings to lead the New York Yankees to a 3-2 win over the Texas Rangers.

Mussina, who became the first Yankees starter to begin a season 5-0 since current pitching coach Mel Stottlemeyre 34 years ago, allowed one run and five hits before being pulled for the final inning.

The Yankees' win was built on Nick Johnson's two-run homer in the fifth inning, while rookie Colby Lewis took the loss for the Rangers, allowing three runs and six hits in six innings.

Meanwhile, Casey Fossum gave up
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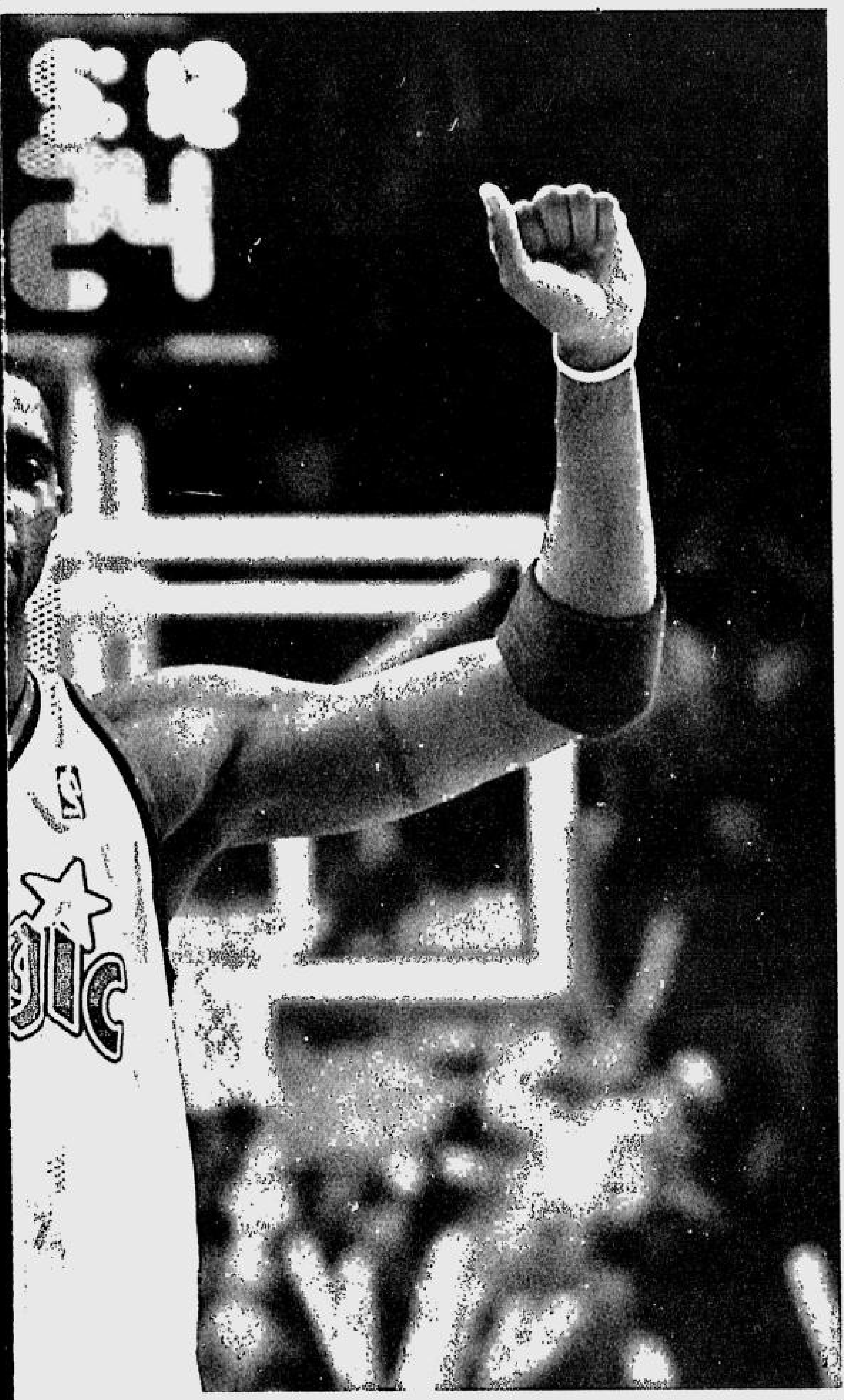

AFP

Agassi keeps rolling, nears No. 1 ranking

HOUSTON, Texas—Andre Agassi moved within one win of the world No. 1 spot after crushing qualifier Ricardo Mello 6-0, 6-1 at the US Clay Court championships on Friday.

Agassi, who will knock Lleyton Hewitt off the top of the rankings if he beats Mardy Fish or Jurgen Melzer in the semi-finals on Saturday, took just 43 minutes to overpower Mello.

"To be number one at all is a great accomplishment, so I would certainly feel rewarded in that," the top-seeded American told the Association of Tennis Professionals' (ATP) official website.

"But for me, being number one is also the result of playing the best tennis and improving it day after day. Over a 52-week period, to reach number one would be nice."

Agassi, the Australian Open champion, completed his 21st victory in 22 matches this year.

American James Blake, the No. 3 seed, suffered an upset defeat when he lost 6-4, 6-7, 6-1 to French qualifier Olivier Mutis, who next meets Andy Roddick after the No. 2 seed defeated Brazilian Fernando Meligeni 6-3, 4-6, 6-4.

AGASSI

Agassi turns 33 on Tuesday but remains in sensational form. The reigning Australian Open champion raised his 2003 match record to 21-1. The winner of 60 ATP titles, he has dropped just five games in his first three matches this week.

The Las Vegas native hopes to improve upon last year's semi-final performance here, where he lost in straight sets to long-time rival Pete Sampras.

Agassi awaits the winner of Friday night's quarter-final between compatriot Mardy Fish and Austria's Jurgen Melzer. Fish will be making his third quarter-final appearance of the season.

A year ago, Blake was beaten in the quarter-finals by eventual champion Andy Roddick, who is the second seed this week.

The 23-year-old Blake has dropped three straight quarter-final matches. Last month, he lost to Argentina's Mariano Zabaleta at Scottsdale and Brazil's Gustavo Kuerten at Indian Wells.

"I was tentative on the big points," Blake said. "I did not play with confidence. I was hoping that he would miss, which you can't do. Maybe in the juniors or in college that works, but not in the professional game. *AFP*

Gustafson up at Eagles; Delasin 3 strokes behind

STOCKBRIDGE, Georgia—Sophie Gustafson is on her way to creating more good memories at the Eagles Landing Country Club.

Gustafson fired a six-under-par 66 in rainy conditions Friday and grabbed a two-shot lead in the Chick-fil-A Charity Championship before opening-round play was suspended.

Cristie Kerr and Denise Killeen shot four-under 68s.

Deb Richard and Australia's Karrie Webb were four-under on the course, Richard through nine holes and Webb through 10.

Fil-Am Dorothy Delasin started strong with a 69 while Jennifer Rosales scored a 71.

A 29-year-old Swede who resides in Chicago, Gustafson recorded her first LPGA Tour win at this event in 2000. The following year, she lost a playoff to countrywoman Annika Sorenstam but eclipsed the 1 million-dollar mark in career earnings.

Asked what she likes about the Eagles Landing course, Gustafson replied, "I don't know, really. I have some really good memories from here."

Gustafson eagled the 474-yard second hole and made five birdies to offset a lone bogey in her second sub-70 score in 16 rounds this season.

"I hit almost every fairway and almost every green, and I don't think that I made too many mistakes," she said.

Half of the 144-player field was on the course when play was halted. The tournament had been pushed back for about four and a half hours after nearly two inches of rain fell overnight.

"I actually got up this morning and I didn't think we were going to play," Kerr said. "I was in the fitness room this morning, trying to start my normal routine and looking at the Weather Channel, and I didn't think there was any way we'd get nine holes done. You ask anybody, they thought it was going to be a wash until the forecast changed." Gustafson is glad it did.

She reached the green with a three-wood at the par-five second hole and rolled in a 60-foot eagle putt, then used her eight-iron to sandwich birdies at the third and 12th holes around a bogey at No. 4.

On the back nine, Gustafson chipped within 20 feet to set up a birdie at the 515-yard 13th hole, left a sand wedge just four feet from the cup at No. 14 and blasted out of a bunker at the 18th hole before making her fifth birdie.

Kerr has an idea why Gustafson is so successful at this 6,368-yard, par-72 layout.

"She's extremely long and she's a great player," Kerr said. "She's won a couple times, she's won here before. She had a great history on this golf course. That definitely helps." Michelle Wie, a 13-year-old Hawaiian who was in contention at the Nabisco Championship, got in just five holes and was one-under. *AFP*

ets ample support

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nates mobbed him in joy when the Pistons called timeout.

"A lot of it is confidence," said Giricek, who was slumping entering the playoffs. "I finally made a shot, then two, then three, and then you know you have your confidence back."

Fueling Orlando's 10-0 breakout was Armstrong's on-the-ball defense to force four straight turnovers. The Magic soon extended their lead to 67-56, and the Pistons never came within six points from there.

Offense

In the second half, Detroit shot 32 percent with 11 turnovers. The Pistons were so inept on offense, they only outscored Orlando by a point in the fourth quarter despite holding the Magic to two field goals.

"We probably stopped doing the little things, helping each other get open, getting something on the weak side and things like that," said Hamilton, who shot 2-for-11 after the break.

Orlando tried to get McGrady's teammates involved early through a deliberate style, out of character for the East's second-most potent offense. The halfcourt sets failed more often than not, and in the opening six minutes the Magic had five turnovers and McGrady had only one shot as they fell behind 15-6.

Hamilton, meanwhile, got off to a good start for the second straight game. Shooting over the Magic's shorter guards, Hamilton had 13 points in the quarter as Detroit led 29-19 at the period's end.

Despite the Magic's early troubles scoring, shooting wasn't a problem—and that's what carried them to a 48-46 halftime lead. *AP*

Longhitter Kuehne fires 64, ties Couples, Calcavecchia

HUMBLE, Texas—Hank Kuehne, a former US Amateur champion who has struggled since turning professional, shot an eight-under-par 64 Friday to gain a share of the lead after the second round of the rain-delayed Houston Open.

Known as one of the longest hitters on the PGA Tour, the Dallas native erased a four-shot deficit at the start of the round to tie Mark Calcavecchia and Fred Couples at 11-under 133 midway through the tournament.

The first round was completed Friday morning after rain halted play Thursday.

Jay Haas was alone in fourth at 134, one stroke ahead of defending champion Vijay Singh of Fiji and Paul Stankowski.

Kuehne's 64 set a course record at the Redstone Golf Club in suburban Houston, which is hosting a PGA tournament for the first time.

The brother of LPGA Tour member Kelli Kuehne has yet to win since turning pro in 1999. But Kuehne showed promise earlier this month at the BellSouth Classic, where he tied for third.

Before Kuehne's surge, the day belonged to the 40-somethings as Calcavecchia, Couples and Haas jockeyed for the lead.

Calcavecchia completed 23 holes on the day in eight-under, while Couples signed for a second-round four-under 68.

Part of the road to the US Open in June, the Houston Open offers a 4.5 million-dollar purse and 810,000-dollar top prize. Tiger Woods is skipping his second straight event. *AFP*

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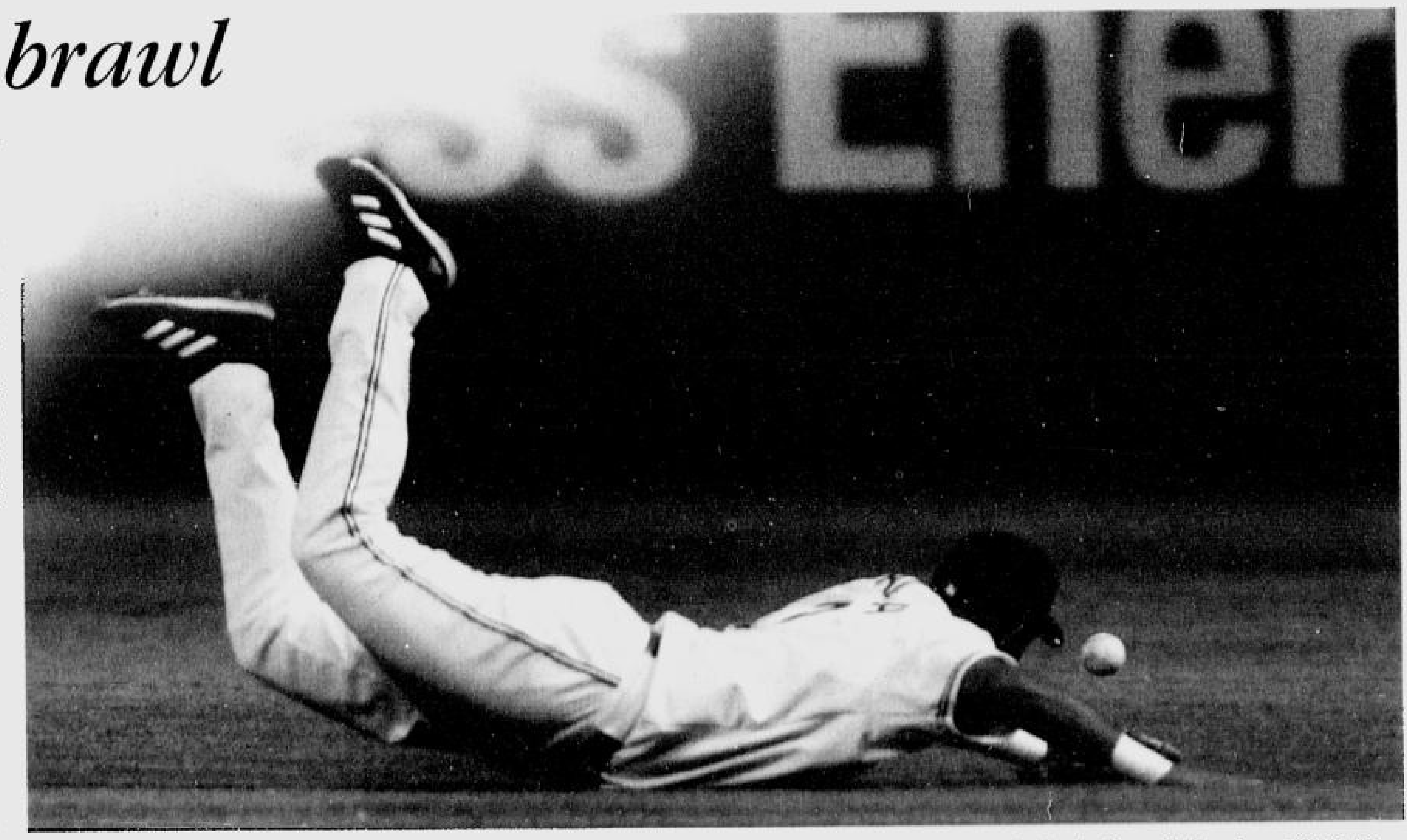
ew and exchanged words with Batista as he jogged off the field.

Martinez lost his composure and ran toward Batista, throwing a punch. Batista threw the ball at Martinez and missed as both benches emptied. The players were ejected and warnings were issued to both dugouts.

The Cardinals decided to retaliate against Arizona's best hitter. With two outs and none on in the ninth inning, Fassero hit Gonzalez with a pitch, prompting the ejections of Fassero and La Russa. *AFP*



TAMPA Bay Devil Rays Carl Crawford stretches for the ball on a hit from Baltimore Orioles Jay Gibbons during the first inning at the Tropicana Field in St. Peterburg, Florida.

AFP

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s. *AFP*

COMPLETE RESULTS

American League—Tampa Bay 2, Baltimore 1, Toronto 6, Kansas City 5, Minnesota 6, Chi White Sox 1, NY Yankees 3, Texas 2, Oakland 5, Cleveland 2, Seattle 6, Detroit 0, Boston 5, Anaheim 2

National League—Los Angeles 5, Pittsburgh 2, Montreal 10, Houston 2, San Diego 7, Cincinnati 3, Milwaukee 12, Atlanta 5, NY Mets 4, Arizona 3, ST. Louis 9, Florida 2, San Francisco 7, Philadelphia 4, Chicago Cubs 11, Colorado 7

Torion's typhoon of his life

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

OUR Dennis U. Eroa christened him Typhoon Torion. That was when Jimwell Torion was still playing in the PBL - the PBL being Dennis' beat for as long as one can remember.

I liked the tag. Still do. Very appropriate. Aside from possessing a distinctly active sound that rhymes with his name, it really aptly describes Jimwell's brand of play: More than the razzle-dazzle type, Jimwell moves swiftly as in a super typhoon ravaging, savaging, an island. But when Jimwell got to the PBA, that moniker was never to be heard of again. I wonder why our sportscasters did not pick that up.

I had forgotten all about that. Until yesterday, when Jimwell Torion hit the headlines. Like a typhoon wreaking havoc on a hapless, tiny island down South. This time, though, the havoc was on him.

"It was just one night of indiscretion," said Torion by way of explaining why he was found positive for shabu (an illegal drug) some days back.

You do a million good things and that's just fine. You do a single bad thing and you are, well, almost doomed.

Jimwell's indiscretion netted him an indefinite suspension. Meaning, the Red Bull Thunder will have to rest for a while. The PBA said he would have to be rehabilitated. Of which I fully agree. Shabu is a far more dangerous drug than marijuana - if marijuana can be considered drug; in some countries, like The Netherlands, marijuana can be had by anyone and is not a banned smoke. But that's another story. And lest you've started thinking about foolish things, I never use marijuana. Never ever tasted it for the life of me.

Jimwell Torion is a case that should be handled well as the PBA's image has been tarnished only a while back when two Fil-Ams were found positive for marijuana use. Both were suspended for two games, a penalty that drew jeers from hardliners who called it "too light a punishment."

I must commend Tony Chua, the Red Bull manager, for having an open mind about the Torion case.

"When I confronted him (Torion) about the findings," said Tony of Jimwell, "he was apologetic and readily admitted his mistakes. He did not try to fool me by offering excuses."

Torion was found positive for shabu use after attending a party in Cebu City following a Red Bull-Talk N Text game in that southern capital some days back.

"I tried to get him to admit he is a drug-user so that we could help him cure it," said Tony. "But he insisted he was not a drug addict. He said he was sorry and apologized to the team, the league and the PBA fans."

Chua said that Red Bull will never condone Torion's act and will follow "to the letter" the decision of the PBA suspending Jimwell indefinitely.

Said Chua: "Torion is a valuable member of our team, but the Batang Red Bull management is taking appropriate action against him because we believe our players should serve as role models for the youth. We are behind the PBA in its crusade against illegal drugs and drug-use and will fully cooperate in all its programs towards that end."

If only that sentiment goes beyond the fight against drug users in the league as to say all team owners must also be prudent always and sincere enough when handling cases of suspected Fil-Shams, then the return of the PBA's old glory should not be far behind.

Always, it is not bad to yearn for the return of the good ole times, as in us going to the town plaza at night to watch Cortal movies under starlit skies.

What is bad is not to have yearned at all.

SPORTSTV

Compiled by Lorenzo Manguiat

WEBBER

BASKETBALL: Kings vs Jazz, Game 3, 10 a.m. (r - 8 p.m.), Solar Sports

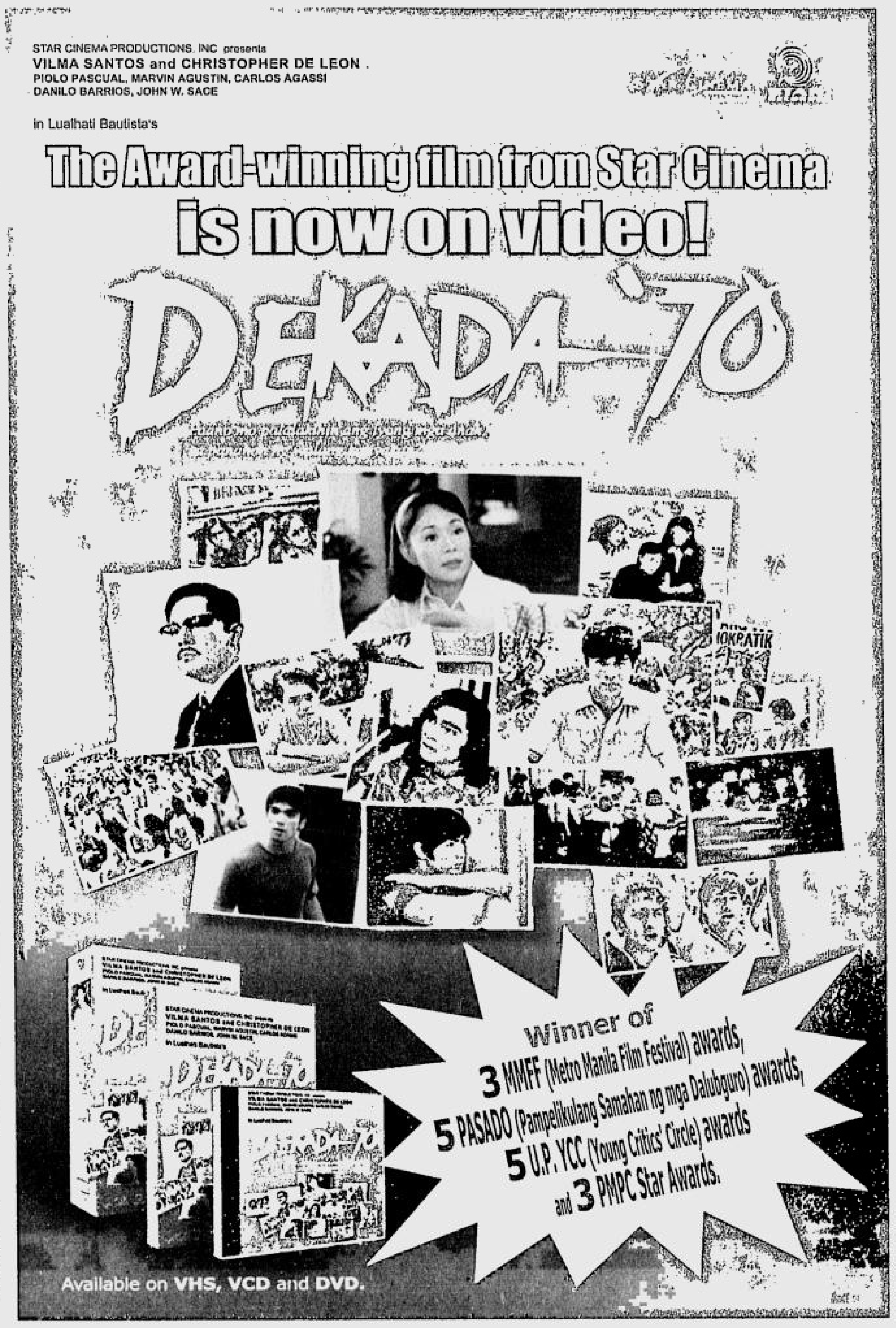
World Pro Basketball Challenge, 10:30 a.m. (r), ESPN

BOWLING: World Tenpin Masters 2002, 3 p.m. (r), ESPN

POOL: 2002 International Challenge of Champions, 12 noon (r), ESPN

World Pool League 2002, 11 p.m. (r), ESPN

SOCCER: EPL, 8:30 a.m. (r), Manchester City vs West Ham United, 8:55 p.m., ESPN



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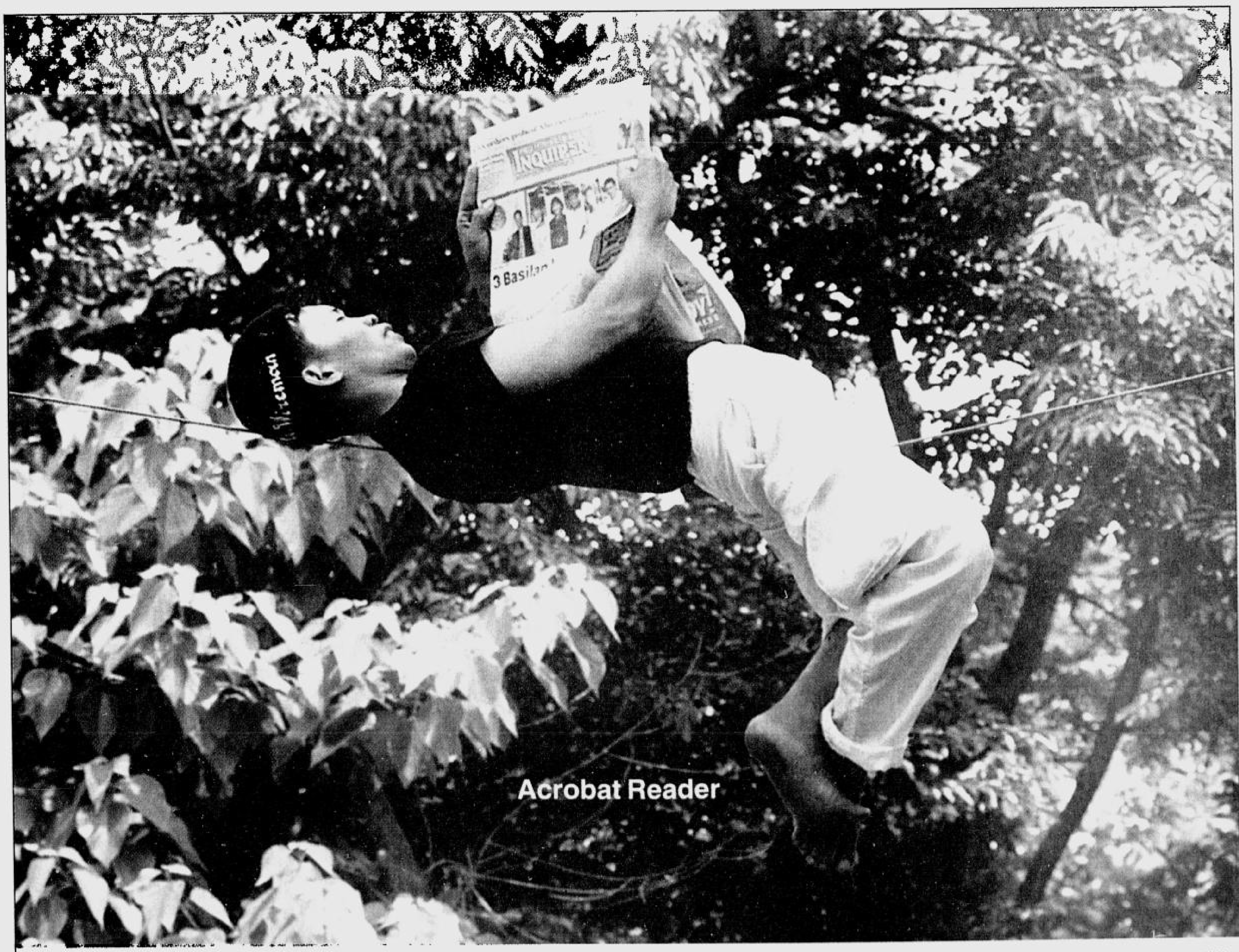


Acrobat Reader

For the past 9 years, the Philippine Daily Inquirer has topped the Asia Research Organization Readership Survey as the No.1 broadsheet in the country. This year, we've done it again, thanks to the faith of our readers, advertisers, dealers, and partners who remain confident in our commitment to public service. We're glad that whatever your reading style, you have made us a part of your life.

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
News that makes a difference

First Gentleman Cup race unfolds May 11

ARROYO

THE PHILIPPINE Charity Sweepstakes Office officially approved yesterday the request of the Manila Jockey Club Inc. for the holding of the third First Gentleman Silver Cup race from the San Lazaro Leisure Park in Carmona, Cavite to the Santa Ana Park in Makati.

PCSO's decision was also authorized by the Philippine Racing Commission in coordination with the MJCI and the Philippine Racing Club which manages the Santa Ana Park, MJCI has formally asked the PCSO to transfer the race venue as a concession to an earlier request for the possible holding of the PCSO Presidential Gold Cup, the country's most prestigious horse race, at the San Lazaro Leisure Park in December.

This year's First Gentleman's Silver Cup, with a total pot of P1.7 million, will have champion galloper Wind Blown as main attraction.

"The running of the First Gentleman's Silver Cup is part of the PCSO's commitment to support the local horse racing industry by providing the ideal venue to highlight the champions of the sport,as well as, to underscore the industry's vital economic and social contribution," said PCSO chair Ma. Livia "Honeygirl" de Leon.

As part of the PCSO Silver Cup tradition, First Gentleman Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo will be the event's honoree.

Wind Blown, seeking an unprecedented third straight Silver Cup win, heads the stellar cast in the 2,050-meter race.

Hermie Esguerra's prized galloper will carry the weight of 62 kgs. under the hands of Fernando Raquel Jr.

Challenging Wind Blown are Perfect Storm, Lyonnais, Golden Ballet, Sparkling Sky, Hyperbid and Kitty Hawk.

Edwin Villanueva

Where the track is safer

ONE WINNER

Edwin Villanueva

BECAUSE local track marvel Wind Blown is sure to run in it, the First Gentleman Silver Cup is suddenly thrust into the limelight.

There were speculations that Hermie Esguerra's *pambato* won't be raced in the event because it has earlier been scheduled at the controversial San Lazaro Leisure Park.

But all doubts as to Wind Blown's participation were erased only a couple of days back when the third FGSC was moved to the Santa Ana Park where, most horseowners agreed, the track is "safer" than the one located in Carmona, Cavite.

Esguerra himself assured the *bayang karerista* that Wind Blown is joining the race honoring Mike Arroyo. "Wind Blown is one hundred percent sure of running in that race," he said. "He's always ready as long as the track does not pose any danger."

A few weeks back, the INQUIRER came out with an exclusive story on the horseowners' plea for the Santa Ana management to repair its track following a spate of accidents that claimed the lives of five horses, including Esguerra's prized colt With Distinction.

My Silip Boy said that the Philippine Racing Club Inc., which manages Santa Ana, acted on the request at once and did the necessary repair, paving the way for the smooth holding of the races at the Makati venue.

So on May 11 (instead of the May 4 schedule at the SLLP), Wind Blown is flexing his muscles again with a mission to win the P1.7 million FGSC for the third consecutive year.

See you all at "The Park."

***

My *panganay* Erika Mae, whom I named after my idol Eric Clapton, turned 15 yesterday.

Among her *ka*-birthday is Vice Gov. Mikey Arroyo, who made himself busy on his special day by being with his constituents in Pampanga.

My Silip Boy said Mikey got gifts from his fellow Klub Don Juan de Manila members but Mikey, instead, used them to buy goodies for his *kabalens*.

Myther Buñag, a KDJM founder like Mikey, and his wife Susan, were all praises to Mikey for his generous deed.

***

E-mail One Winner at evillanueva@inquirer.com.ph or sports@inquirer.com.ph

Coseteng aims to pad lead

JODY Coseteng aims to extend his lead in the premier Super A class when the fifth and sixth rounds of the 2003 SVI-Grand Prix unfold at the Subic International Raceway today).

Coseteng, the defending champion and star rider of Caltex-Havoline, has compiled a four-round total of 26 points based on the 10-6-4-3-2-1 scoring system, just a point ahead of his nearest pursuer in the centerpiece event.

Last season's Driver of the Year had a near flawless run in the third round total of the series, but suspension problems prevented him finishing the fourth round.

But due to the enormous lead he compiled in the first three rounds, the resilient Coseteng still managed to keep the lead.

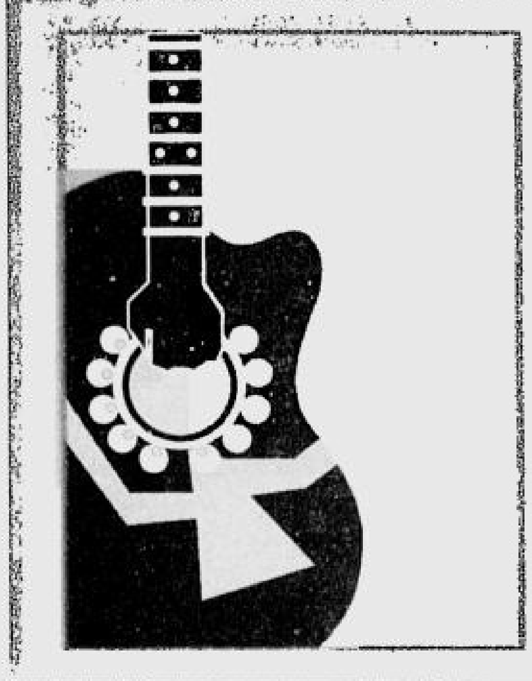
"We're expecting a smoother run on Sunday," said Coseteng. "Problems arise in the most unusual way but we're trying to limit them at the minimum. The important thing is preparation, and we have plenty of that."

RACING TIPS

AT SANTA ANA BY MR. 999

Race 1--1. Si Isidro Ko 2. Silver Muisc 3. Better King 4. Courage
Race 2--1. Golden Ballet 2. Mrs. Rainier 3. Hyperbid
Race 3--1. Ilocos Queen 2. Art of Rose 3. Latin Beat 4. Rapid Strike
Race 4--1. Concorde/Last Hazm 2. Magic Ewan Ko 3. My Rabbonnie 4. Cool Fashion 5. Dazzling Affair
Race 5--1. Lady magallanes 2. Honor Code 3. Elusive Quality 4. Winter's Fury 5. Praetorian
Race 6--1. La Vida 2. Ilocos Princess 3. Fancy Free/Memory Lane
Race 7--1. West Bound 2. Bulakena/Reigns Supreme 3. Moneyline 4. Duty Bound
Race 8--1. Petro Dollar 2. Bronte 3. Golden West 4. Dulce My Love 5. Choice for Change
Race 9--1. Magic Bullet 2. Doctor Steve 3. Bold Lucky 4. Close Account 5. Gleaming Heart
Race 10--1. Maginoo's Pride 2. Boogie Shoes 3. Foreign Exchange 4. Hole in One 5. Impromptu
Race 11--1. Tatler Cover 2. Major League 3. Baccarat 4. Bumper to Bumper 5. Ryuji
Race 12--1. Korek Ka Dyan 2. Silver Dollar 3. Decathlete 4. Diligence 5. Cycloneferros
Race 13--1. Swinger 2. Oh Diva 3. Express Strike 4. Legitimo 5. Black Force 6. Magnicolo

Written and directed for those who see the bigger picture.
Stock market results. Management issues. Corporate expansion. And of course, the competition.
BUSINESS Monday INQUIRER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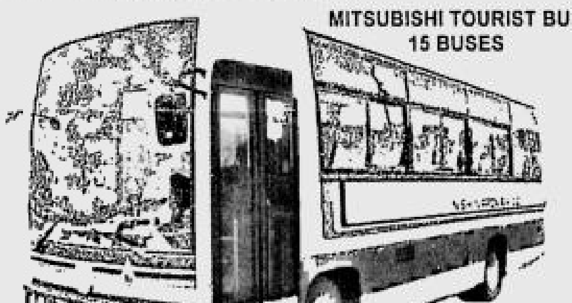

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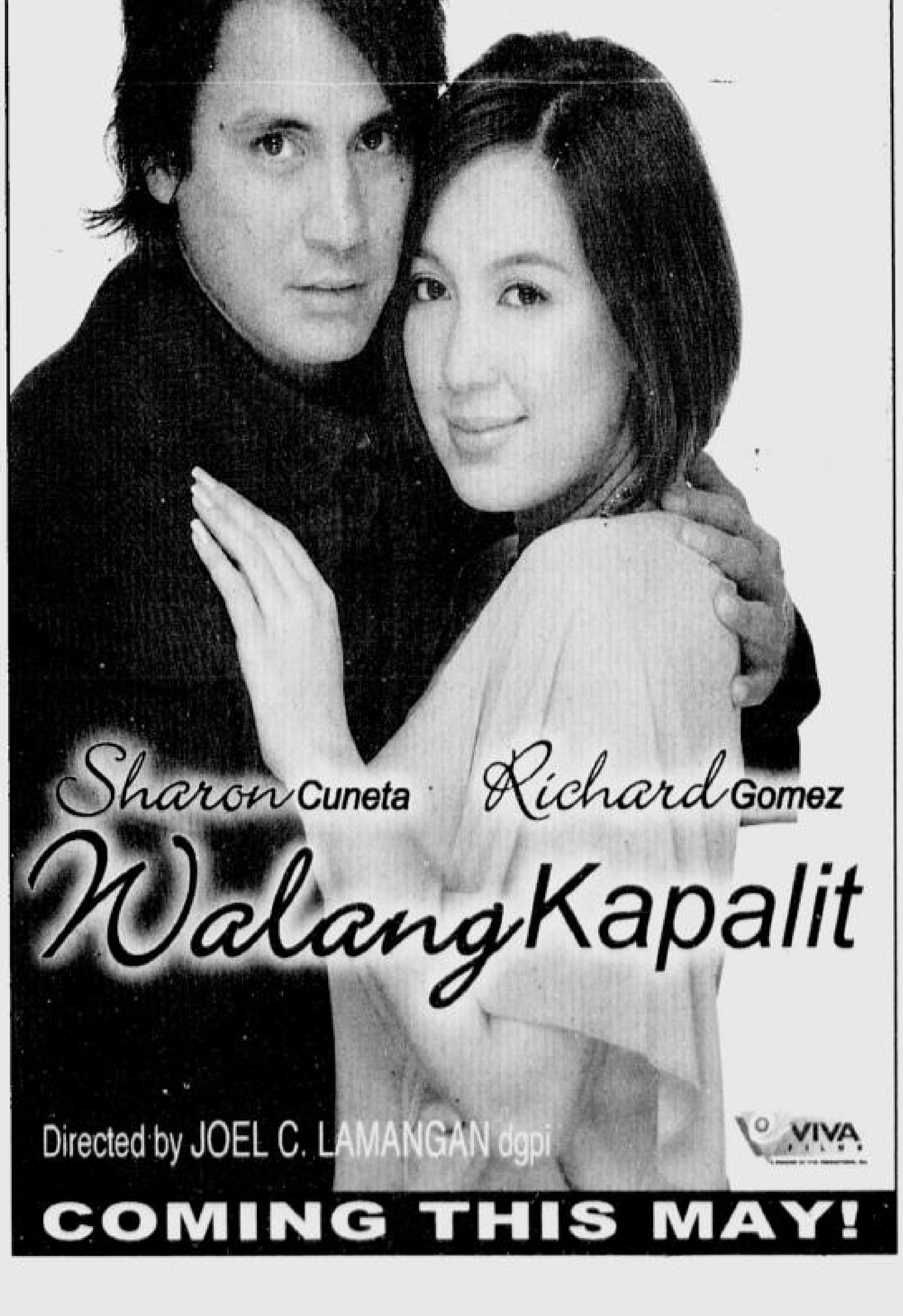
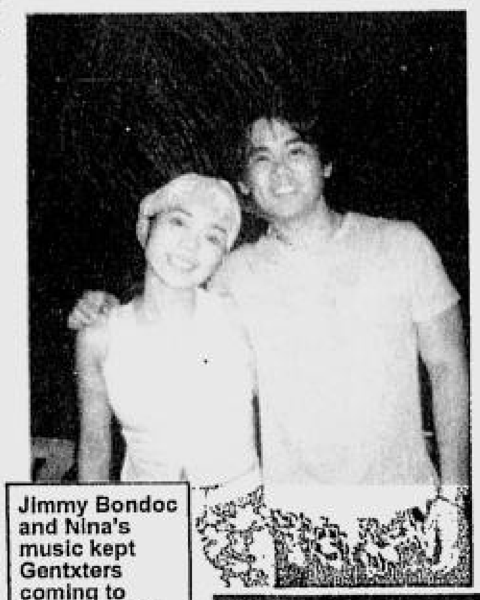


COMING THIS MAY!

Great Globe Connections

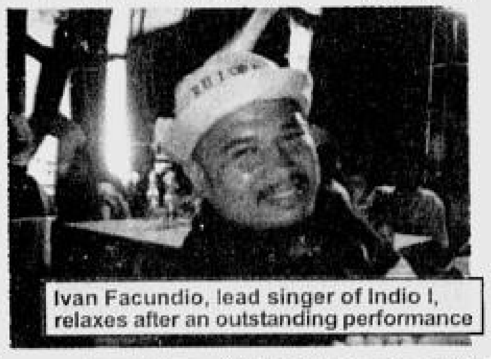
Gentxt conquers Boracay!

Globe 's recent mission to conquer Boracay was a complete and overwhelming success. Armed with a killer arsenal consisting of a mean party machine, an army of Gentxt favorite musical performers, a salvo of various fun events, and a bombardment of freebies, Globe swept through the island paradise without a hint of resistance.



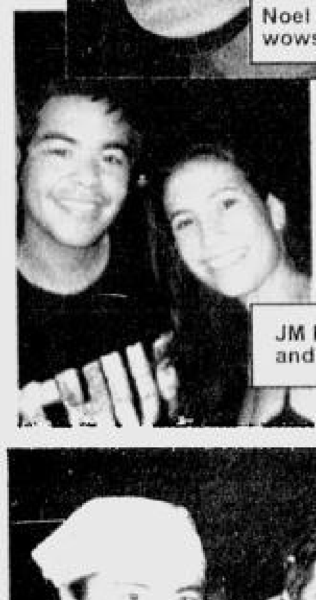
Jimmy Bondoc and Nina's music kept Gentxters coming to Globe's killer summer events in Boracay

Giselle Sanchez with Globe's Roland Dallarte



Ivan Facundio, lead singer of Indio I, relaxes after an outstanding performance

Noel Cabangon's performance wows Gentxters in Boracay



JM Rodriguez and a friend

Celebrities like Gentxt endorsers **Bianca Gonzalez** and **Evan Santos,** popular chanteuse **Nina,** ramp model and TV host **Hans Montenegro,** socialite **Shaan Bermudez** and her new beau, popular cager **Vince Hizon,** Power Boy **Greg Martin,** comic **Willy Revillame,** musician **Jimmy Bondoc** and others agreed that the Gentxt parties were the place to be and be seen in Boracay.

The Gentxt events were a hit among card-carrying Gentxters who gained free access to the parties and were rewarded with a windfall of freebies. All they had to do was flash their Gentxt cards, their exclusive ticket to fun parties and other free stuff such as Gentxt tattoos, backpacks, bandannas, shirts, hats and caps as well as free ice tea from **Lipton** and friendship bracelets from **The Bead Shop.** Gentxters also availed of special discounts at **Caribo, Barracuda, Charlhs, Wreck, Little Mango, Secs in Boracay, Calypso Diving** and **Aquarius Diving.** Gentxters even got to sail for free around the island in one of the many blue and white Globe paraws.

Gentxt's five day party mania kicked off at sunset on April 16. Gentxters were treated to a Latin House Sunset Session with **Roberto Sanchez** and **Samba Funk** at the terrace of **Summer Place,** one of Boracay's hippest hangouts. Party fever hit its peak at 10pm when **DJs Jaco** and Cocoy Puyat brought the house down with an electric set comprised of storming House music and blissfull Chill Out grooves.

Meanwhile, over at **Pier One,** concert-going music lovers were regaled by a cascade of popular Top 40 tunes covered brilliantly by perennial Gentxt favorite, **Next Level**.

April 17 opened with another cool and relaxed showcase of electronica fused with classic samba at **Summer Place** courtesy of **Latin Canteen** featuring **Carlo Ching,** while RnB lovers were dazzled by a concert given by all-girl combo **Silk** at **Pier One.**

On April 19, Gentexters marched to **Summer Place** to enjoy an evening of non-stop live reggae and ska music. **Carlotta Ensemble** opened the Caribbean music marathon with a grand fireworks display as their backdrop. They wowed the crowd with excellent renditions of popular Bob Marley tunes. The much-loved **Indio I** took to the stage amidst thunderous applause, playing for two hours as the audience kept asking for more. Their tight and highly entertaining set included covers of tunes popularized by **Aswad, Big Mountain** and **UB40** as well as a succession of original materials including crowd favorite **S On My Chest.** As always, **Brownman Revival** put on a flawless performance that kept the crowd on its feet, dancing like crazy until 4am. This was followed by pumping hiphop music provided by turntabulists **63 Squad** and **DJ Jaco** which kept Gentxters partying till sunrise.

Not to be outdone, mainstream music fanatics flocked to **Pier One** for the back-to-back concert of Next Level and Silk. This double billing was a perfect outing to witness an evening of exceptional music and voices.

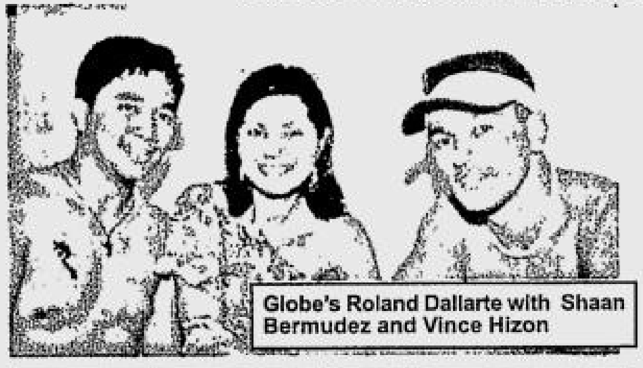
On Easter Sunday, Noel Cabangon's all acoustic set enveloped Gentxters at **Summer Place** with folky and earthy vibes. His introspective lyrics allowed Gentxters to reflect and relax, while his warm voice caressed the audience, just like Boracay's gentle waves.

"We came to Boracay to give a fresh twist to the island's already festive party scene. What distinguishes Gentxt parties from the others in the island is that we introduce a more Global flavor to the traditionally house or trance based music being played at most of Boracay's party hangouts," said Buda Concio, Globe AVP for Prepaid.

Gentxt Brand Manager Chooey Velayo added, "The diverse Gentxt activities and events in Boracay serve as our summer treat for our subscribers. More than just the usual noisy partying, our Gentxt events reflect Boracay's groovy and laid-back island lifestyle. Judging from the huge turn-out, Boracay's party people certainly welcome Gentxt."

The Gentxt invasion of Boracay was a truly memorable experience. More exciting Gentxt activities are planned for the whole summer. So Gentxters, B 1 Of Us as Globe asserts its supremacy over the summer season.

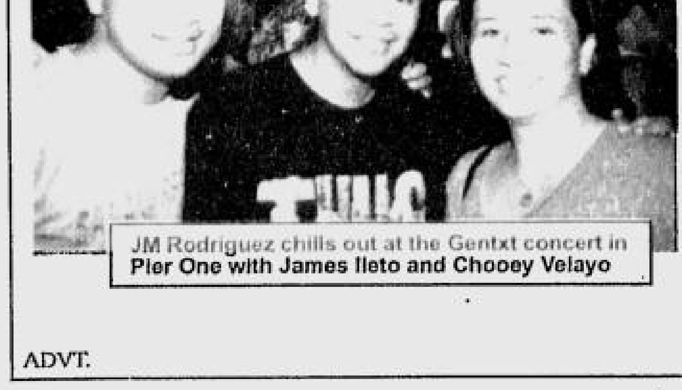
Shaan Bermudez livens up the awards ceremony of the Gentxt Boracay Regatta



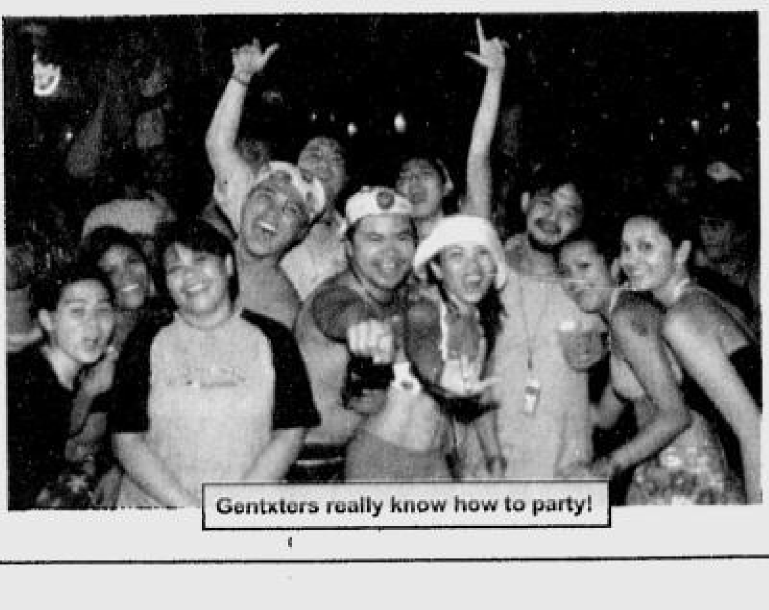
Globe's Roland Dallarte with Shaan Bermudez and Vince Hizon

Vince and Jennifer Ong, MJ Hyndman, Buda Concio, Cleo Santos and Alexis Winters celebrate Gentxt's triumph in Boracay

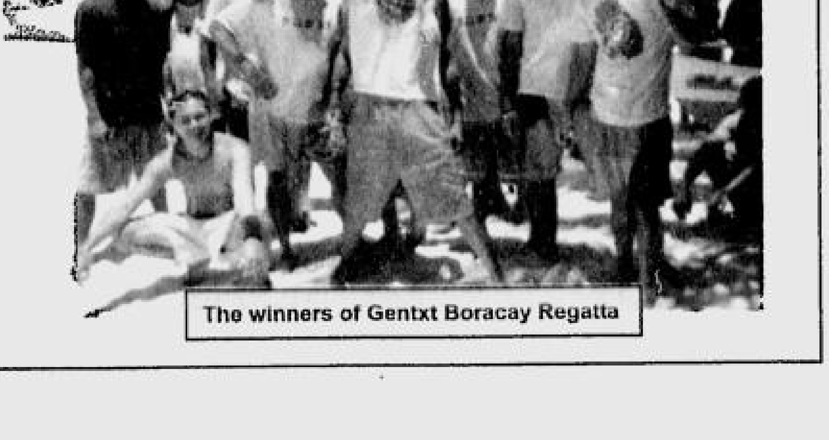
Gentxt endorsers Evan Santos and Bianca Gonzalez take in the sand, sea and fun in Boracay



JM Rodriguez chills out at the Gentxt concert in Pier One with James Ileto and Chooey Velayo



Gentxters really know how to party!



The winners of Gentxt Boracay Regatta

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NEW CEO OF NYSE-LISTED FIRM IS FILIPINA

She never dreamed of going into business

By Margie Quimpo-Espino

A FRIEND once reminded Angelica Urra-Berrie of that time long ago when they would get together and think of businesses to get into. Her friend said Angie would bring all sorts of novelty and gift items and point them out as possibilities.

Berrie says she had forgotten about those days but realizes now that they were a portent of things to come.

Berrie, a Visayan, is the new chief executive officer of the 40-year-old Russ Berrie and Company of the US, makers of gift items like plush toys (or stuff toys), mugs, home decors. It is listed at the New York Stock Exchange.

(The products are distributed in the Philippines by Gift Gate.)

The firm was named after its founder, Russ Berrie, who passed away last Dec. 25, at the age of 69. He was the husband of Angie.

"My husband was diabetic for 19 years," says the 48-year-old, although Russ Berrie died of a heart attack. "My husband hoped he could build a succession team, a management team. We always thought it was somebody else who would take his place. But he told me if something happens you'll have to make the decision."

ANGELICA Urra-Berrie amid the plush items or stuff toys which comprise 45 percent of Russ' sales. CHITO VECINA

She says it never occurred to her that she would take over her husband's post. When Berrie died, a management team took over but after a month the board of Russ appointed Angie as CEO.

It has been a daily grind for Angie since her husband died. "When Russ died I worked everyday. I would wake up at four and leave for the gift show in Atlanta then fly back the same day. This is my first real break."

Angie was in Manila recently to be with her father who had a scheduled bypass operation at the Asian Hospital.

She admits that her new post is daunting. She had to fill her husband's shoes immediately.

"I was in the board for four years and I was VP for strategic planning. The transition was a natural thing for the customers and the stockholders. There was no bleep in the stocks after he died," she says.

She admits it has been quite intimidating to be the only female member of the board.

"The big boys' language is more corporate. Women are not trained to speak in the corporate language. Our management style is intuitive. We say 'I feel, I think.' Men say 'I believe, I want.'

"You have to be aware of how to send the right signals. You have to project bigger. You start communicating globally, " she says.

Angie says Russ was her mentor. Since they were married 11 years ago, they have been together 24/7. She says their honeymoon was spent doing store research. When they travel, they make sure they find a Russ item in the places they go to. So far, the only place they did not find one was in Tahiti.

How she met Russ

They met when Russ came to Manila and got to know Angie, who was then one of Russ Berrie's suppliers. She is the fourth wife of Russ who has six children from previous marriages.

She moved to the US to join Russ and left her business with a brother who was eventually "pirated" by Russ. Angie was in the papier mache exports business.

While her husband was hands-on in running the company he started with $500, Angie says her style "is to stir people."

"My style is if we do this what would happen? Are we building succession in the various departments?," she says.

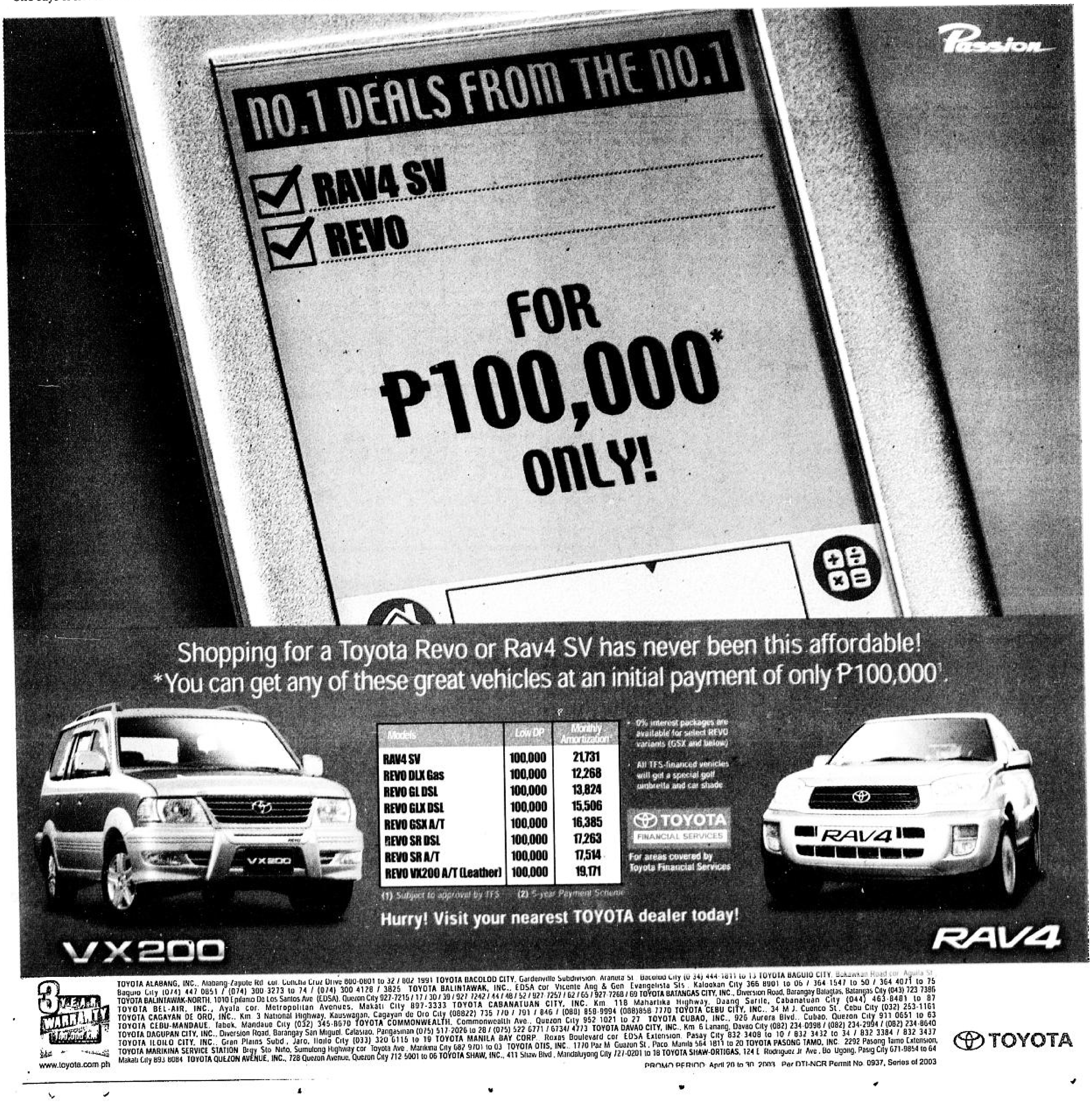
She says this was her training as head of strategic planning—to look at things as a whole.

"EVERY CEO has his own values. Mine is leadership by example. I have to be willing to do what everyone does."
JIM GUIAO PUNZALAN

One of her key moves was to hire the right people. She started by pulling out one of the company's regional presidents and appointing him administrative officer.

"Every CEO has his own values. Mine is leadership by example. I have to be willing to do what everyone does. My husband told me if you cannot drill down,

SHE/ B2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PROMO PERIOD: April 20 to 30, 2003 Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0937, Series of 2003

TOYOTA

Sachet technology makes ex-tricycle driver worth millions

By Carmel Tongo-Mosura
Contributor

GATLABAYAN

DID you know that the man who introduced us to the sachet is the same one who leads the city of Antipolo?

He is the same man who once drove a tricycle to make ends meet for his family

Humble beginnings led to Mayor Angelito Gatlabayan's breakthrough idea. After graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Chemical Engineering from Adamson University and marrying his wife Josefina, Gatlabayan took a job as a tricycle driver to support his family.

"Driving a tricycle is a difficult job and it gave me the challenge to get a degree and earn not with the muscle but with the brain."

He met an accident while driving his tricycle once and the experience made him think very hard about the future. It was then that he dreamed up the concept that would revolutionize the retail industry: sachet packaging.

A money-saving blessing for singles, travelers and people with limited income, Gatlabayan, the chemist, formulated the use of sachet packs for shampoos, conditioners, flavoring and even pre-mixed coffee.

Sachets were earlier believed to be too difficult to formulate for single-serve packages. He then sold the concept to firms engaged in packaging products intended for single use.

But before shaking the foundations of the industry with this revolutionary idea, Gatlabayan jumpstarted a career in laminated film and plastic packaging of snack foods, juice, coffee and shampoo when he joined Philippine Cellophane Film Corp. as OIC of the Technical Services Department. From there, he became the operations manager for Reliable Contract Manager where his talent and creativity were honed.

His phenomenal climb as president of Macstrat Inc. in the Packaging Philippine Division sealed his fate and his expertise in packaging.

The ultimate feather to his cap was being hired as a regional director for Asia operation of Nagai Package Co. Ltd., a subsidiary of NP Group of Companies in Osaka, Japan, with offices in Manila, Bangkok, Jakarta and Singapore.

He embarked on a creative career in packaging with a concept attuned to the Filipino consumer's style emphasizing affordability.

For some time, he mulled the concept of selling products in small quantities so that the average Juan can buy what he needs only for the moment.

When the idea caught the fancy of the manufacturers, Gatlabayan started to market his creation to package most of the consumer products in sachets such as snack food, juice, coffee, creamer, shampoo, conditioner and many others.

Companies started to produce their products with the "masa" in mind for after all, they are the largest consumers in the country.

"I never thought I'd reach this far. As a young man, my only dream was to have a college degree, get a job and provide for my family," he said.

But as fate would have it, he was destined to do great things, to make life better for others.

His ideas have definitely help marginalized Filipinos purchase products with just a few pesos. Instead of buying a bottle of shampoo, which may cost about P40 and up, a consumer need only spend P5-P6 a sachet to get a decent bath for a day.

From the concept of "tingi" to a trend in packaging, Gatlabayan has started a trend. Today, he would just sit back, relax and watch the royalties come pouring in. He also diversified his business from packaging to real estate and other enterprises locally as well as in other countries in Asia. He explains, "If there are at least one million Filipinos using shampoo and conditioner in one day, that's how much I will earn that particular day."

It is the same fertile and creative mindset that governs his concepts for his hometown of Antipolo, Rizal, for which he has served as mayor since May of 1998.

Shepherding Antipolo into cityhood for five years now, Mayor Gatlabayan has dedicated his stewardship toward making his city a must-see tourist destination, keeping true to its age-old distinction as the Philippines' "Pilgrimage City."

Marketing to reach the consumer's soul

"Priceless"
By Diana LaSalle and Terry Britton
Harvard Business School Press, 2003

By Dante M. Velasco

EXECUTIVE READ

PERFECT marketing strategies are never written in granite. The quest for the best and most effective way to win the heart and mind—and now the soul—of the customer is endless.

A book was written about how Hallmark established "emotional touchpoints" with its customers—and made loyalty a cradle-to-grave virtue.

Philip Kotler revised his four P's in marketing as he acknowledged the presence of "networked marketing" that refuses to be segmented.

Michael Hammer volunteered ETDBW—or "easy-to-do-business—with." Each attempt at taking a second—or inner—look at the customer draws us closer to the heart—nay, the soul—of the customer.

"Classical marketing" (an oxymoron) has been taking a beating, we know, including the durable distinction between "product features" and "product benefits."

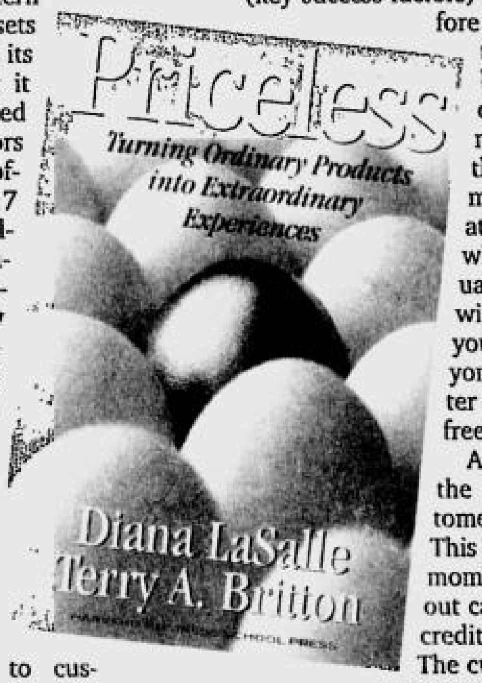
The book, simply titled "Priceless," recommends: "The focus must now shift to what a product or service offers and how it affects customers' lives." In other words, make the customer "experience" your product.

The book presents what it calls "value experience"—delivering value with unforgettable events that therefore enable the product to transcend the ordinary to become extraordinary—or priceless. Therefore, it is no longer a product that you buy; it's a product that is part of a meaningful experience.

How do you create "value experience"?

The authors reveal that the best way to develop lasting relationships with consumers is to "relate to their values and support what is important in their lives."

The book cites a small business that has made a transition and delivered value to its customers: Deerpath Medical Associates, a group of specialists in Northern Illinois. "What sets Deerpath apart is its focus on making it easy to be cared for," the authors say. Deerpath's offices open at 7 a.m., and even allow walk-in patients to be attended to in a few minutes by specialists ranging from allergists to opthalmologists.



Locally, McDonald's introduced the "60-second Challenge," where counter attendants respond to customers within 60 seconds or less.

In business, what is experience? The book prefaces its answer with this: "An experience cannot happen without the customer's involvement." The operative word is "engagement."

The book offers the "Experience Engagement Process (EEP)." It allows consumers to discover, evaluate, acquire, integrate and extend. Adapted from a consumer decision-making model by Johan Arndt, EEP outlines the stages customers go through—thus uncovering the real value of an offering."

The first stage, to discover, happens when consumers "identify products and services to meet specific wants and needs, and uncover possible sources for them." The need or impulse to buy something may be company-induced—for instance, the latest Coke TVC inspires customers to join the "Hottah Hottah" rave.

It can also be self-induced—a yuppie decides he needs a new mobile phone with GPRS and an MP3 player. Or it can be situation-induced—when your ever-dependable laptop that stores practically everything bugs down.

The next step, to evaluate, engages the consumers to "process" the KSFs (key success factors) of products before finally making the decision to buy. This is a critical moment, because the customer may just shift his attention somewhere after "evaluation." Hook him with experiencing your offering beyond the usual after sales service or free installation.

After evaluating the product, customers acquire it. This is the defining moment. He fishes out cash or shows his credit card. But, wait. The customer may yet change his or her mind. If your product has the style but not the color, then the ubiquitous competitor is ever ready to grab your customer by the hand. So, experience marketing must "hold the customer to the very end."

Upon acquisition, customers now integrate the goods into their lives. As the authors point out, it is the "process of making something a part of the whole." Your job doesn't end with every purchase—it has just begun. A personalized service, an attractive packaging—that has lasting value—may yet cement the relationship. You create "valuable integration experience" for customers.

The decision to repurchase is to extend the EEP. According to the authors, "This is the stage where company and customer form a bond beyond mere ownership or use of a product or a service."

Customers today are complex and are often moved by social events. For them, this is far beyond achieving satisfaction and brand loyalty. For companies, this is "reaching for the soul of the consumer" and, ultimately, seeing the value through the customer's eyes. *(dantemv@i-next.net)*

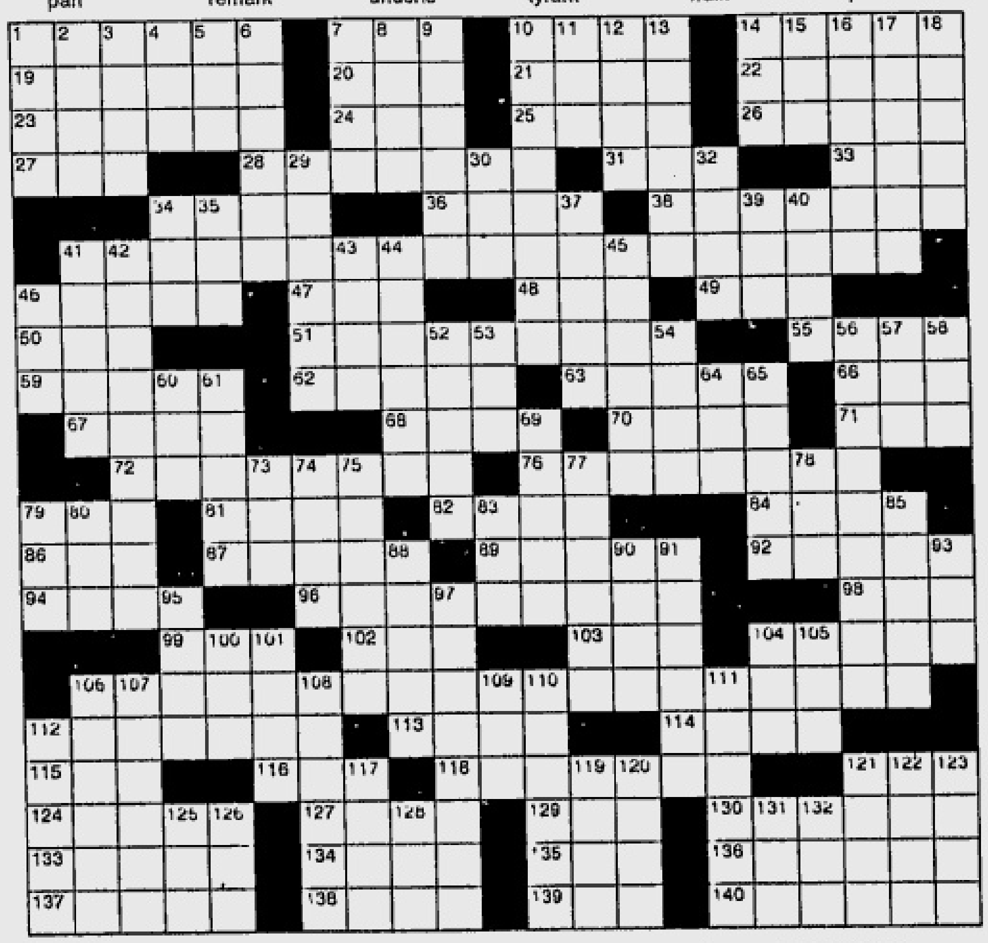
SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Donna J. Stone

UPLIFTING STORY

ACROSS
1 Yacht spot
7 Label
10 Country singer Hank
14 Hopeless case
19 Mistreated
20 — Simbel
21 "I could — horse!"
22 Madrid museum
23 Start of a remark by Gene Perret
24 Makes one's mark
25 Fragment
26 High points
27 Ben, to Hoss
28 Sparkle
31 Tend a tot
33 Actress Meyers
34 "— gras
36 One of the Waughs
38 Prickly plant
41 Part 2 of remark
46 Managed
47 Burton or Curry
48 Doe in "Bambi"
49 Comic Charlotte
50 "Alley —"
51 Rash
55 Unrestrained
59 Handbag part
62 "— Be Me" ('60 hit)
63 Designer Simpson
66 Baseball's Berg
67 "— Is for Heroes" ('62 film)
68 Crude cartel
70 Gray or Moran
71 Comics' noise
72 Wedding gift, perhaps
76 Electrician's device
79 "You bet!"
81 Conductor Karl
82 Puerto —
84 Piccadilly figure
86 Mellow
87 Athenian arcades
89 French impressionist
92 Inclines
94 Playwright Hart
96 Fusili's predecessor
98 "— favor"
99 Curious
102 Quisenberry or Quayle
103 "I've — it!"
104 Texas athlete
106 Part 3 of remark
112 Rudy Vallee, for one
113 Show-stopper
114 Tibetan monk
115 Word on a pump
116 Cotton clump
118 Bit
121 Davis' dom.
124 See 5 Down
127 Prepare to be shot
129 "— whiz!"
130 End of remark
133 Martini garnish
134 Depraved
135 April initials
136 Paganini's instrument
137 Olympic award
138 Medieval menial
139 Squirrel's snack
140 Graceland, e.g.

DOWN
1 A sweeping success?
2 "— -Ca-Dabra" ('74 song)
3 Wished undone
4 "It — far, far better . . ."
5 With 124 Across, "Air Music" composer
6 Leisurely, to Liszt
7 Judd Hirsch sitcom
8 Help a hood
9 Holst or Mahler
10 Hid
11 Slangy negative
12 Publisher Chandler
13 Elk
14 Scholastic abbr.
15 Mythical monster
16 Jet of yore
17 Swimmer Gertrude
18 Riveting woman?
29 Soup type
30 Yalie
32 Heavenly hammerer
34 Adversary
35 Approved
37 Cretan port
39 One — million
40 Prepare prunes
41 Diner feature
42 Acts the tyrant
43 Lifesaver flavor
44 Caveat —
45 One following another
46 — Cob, CT
52 More mature
53 Multipurpose vehicle
54 Semester
56 Musical composition
57 Card game
58 Morning moisture
60 PC key
61 Commoners
64 Speak with a forked tongue
65 Record
69 Winter warmer-upper
73 Bon —
74 "Hold your horses!"
75 Blake or Plummer
77 Neighbor of Hokkaido
78 Distinctive period
79 Tasty tuber
80 Self-esteem
83 Mischief-maker
85 Hurling or curling
88 Corset parts
90 List ender
91 Learn to walk
93 Theater sign
95 London district
97 Per se
100 Bear's lair
101 Comic Carey
104 Bk. convenience
105 Health club
106 Baltimore bird
107 Steamy
108 Long curtains
109 Fire
110 Starting point
111 Homegrown
112 Pool shot
117 Mourning —
119 Callao's country
120 Nuisance
121 Fountain order
122 Loretta of "M*A*S*H"
123 Melodious Murray
125 "Die Meistersinger" heroine
126 Gibson or Blanc
128 Tynemouth title
131 "Whether — nobler in the mind . . ."
132 Decimal point



Answer on page H3

She never dreamed of going into business

From page B1

the bureaucracy will hide things."

Angie has plans for Russ Berrie. One of these is to measure its brand equity and how it is used.

"The gift industry is so fragmented. There are many players and no one is the leader. That is where the opportunities are. But we have to know what our image is."

No plant in RP

Russ has no production facility in the Philippines. Angie says they used to source some of the products here but the costs were not as competitive as China's. Most of the firm's products are made in Guangdong, China, where SARS started. Ironically their products are not yet available in the Communist country.

"We haven't figured out how to sell our products there—whether we will have our own store or partner with people."

Worldwide, Russ has 1,750 people. Its annual sales reach about $300 million. One of its greatest hits was the Troll of the '90s which brought in sales of $250 million in one year, according to Angie.

Angie believes Russ products are recession-proof. No matter how hard times are, people will buy gifts especially plush items which account for 45 percent of their sales.

In her first few months as CEO, she has done well in imbibing the culture of command and authority which big boys speak with. This is quite a shift from her days as a PR assistant of Ace Compton (Saatchi and Saatchi) nearly 30 years ago. She says the PR head then was Danny Gozo, former spokesperson of the Ayala Corp.

After finishing Mass Communciations from the Assumption College, she joined the ad agency where she stayed for three years.,

"I never thought I'd be in business. I love advertising and everything I learned in advertising is good—marketing, promotions. My first job was an essential tool to use in thinking when you are in the export business."

She was also entrepreneurial. She set up a modeling agency which provided commercial models for agencies. And later, she went into exports.

She says she relaxes by doing yoga three times a week and tai-chi classes.

Angie says she can never remember what she did two days ago. She has to check her calendar. She lives by the day.

And who is her confidante and mentor now? "No one." Russ always said it's lonely at the top. In this job, you're alone. Before he asked me and I asked him. Now I have to learn to say this is my decision."

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Oil firm backs Panglao 2003 coral reef project

TOTALFinaElf Philippines (TFE Philippines) supports Panglao 2003, an international marine biodiversity project slated in May this year.

Citing the Philippines as among the world's most fascinating areas for coastal ecosystems study, marine experts from 15 nations all over the globe will visit the Bohol province to embark on the project that aims, among others, to shed light on marine species diversity on a global scale.

The project's main proponents are TotalFinaElf Foundation and the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The other groups supporting the project are Conservation International and the Asean Regional Center for Biodiversity Conservation in collaboration with the University of San Carlos in Cebu City.

In line with its parent company's commitment to the protection of coastal ecosystems, TFE Philippines has pledged its support for the project whose beginnings dates back to 1992, when TotalFinaElf Foundation found thousands of marine species in the exotic sites of New Caledonia.

Similar studies followed in 2000 at Loyalty Islands in Lifou and in Rapa (Australes archipelago) in 2002. The project culminates in Panglao, which is considered to hold a key position at the heart of the Indo-Pacific species richness gradient.

A team of 75 international marine experts will conduct the 45-day fieldwork from May to July 2003 to acquire new scientific knowledge on the richness of Philippine marine species. Panglao 2003 is led by senior professors Dr. Philippe Bouchet of the French National Museum and Dr. Danilo Largo, Biology department chair of the University of San Carlos in Cebu.

Participants in the study are composed of marine scientists, professors, students, divers, technicians and volunteers from 15 countries namely Austria, Belgium, Italy, Australia, Russia, Singapore, Sweden, Taiwan, France, New Caledonia, Norway, Spain, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam and the United States. Additionally, local institutions like the Philippine National Museum and the Marine Science Institute of the University of the Philippines will participate.

Panglao is located at the west portion of Bohol's capital, Tagbilaran City.

Frenchman plays David to Starbucks Goliath

PARIS—When Philippe Bloch came up with a plan to sell take-away café lattés to picky Parisians used to shots of eye-popping espresso, his bankers balked and traditional French café owners called him crazy.

"You can't reinvent a business as old as the French café," quipped one rival at the opening of the first Columbus Café in central Paris back in 1994.

Nearly a decade later, the energetic Frenchman and his partner Ralph Hababou have built up a chain of over 30 coffee bars and more are on the way.

But their success in winning over Parisians with a distinctly American-style coffee concept has not come easily and their struggle offers some clues on why Seattle-based java giant Starbucks is still steering clear of France, some 20 years after US fast-food icon McDonald's set up shop here.

In a new book, Bloch describes his crusade to create Columbus Café—a tale of battles with French bureaucrats, disheartening meetings with investors and even a trip to court where he was admonished by a French judge for trying to be "too American."

Like McDonald's, which took the better part of a decade to turn a profit in France, Columbus is only now reaching the break even point.

But after years of flirting with failure, the chain and its flavored lattés, brownies and muffins is winning fans—vindication for Bloch, who put a successful consultant career on hold after falling in love with an American-style espresso bar on Columbus Avenue in New York in 1993.

"Culturally we are beginning to win our battle," Bloch said. "The concept is beginning to become a part of everyday life."

He expects the chain's revenues to rise by more than 50 percent this year to approach 10 million euros.

A new flagship store opened in Paris this month. Bloch expects to add at least 10 new cafés in the Paris region by the end of the year.

These figures look pretty paltry compared to the $3.3 billion in sales recorded last year by Starbucks, which now counts over 6,000 cafés worldwide. *Reuters*

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OF THE PHILIPPINES
NOTICE OF ANNUAL MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS

TO ALL STOCKHOLDERS: April 16, 2003

Please be advised that the Annual Meeting of Stockholders of UnionBank of the Phillippines will be held at the Quezon-C Ballroom (Basement 1) of Makati Shangri-La, Makati Avenue, Makati City on Friday, **May 23, 2003**, at 4:00 p.m.

The Agenda for the said meeting will be as follows:

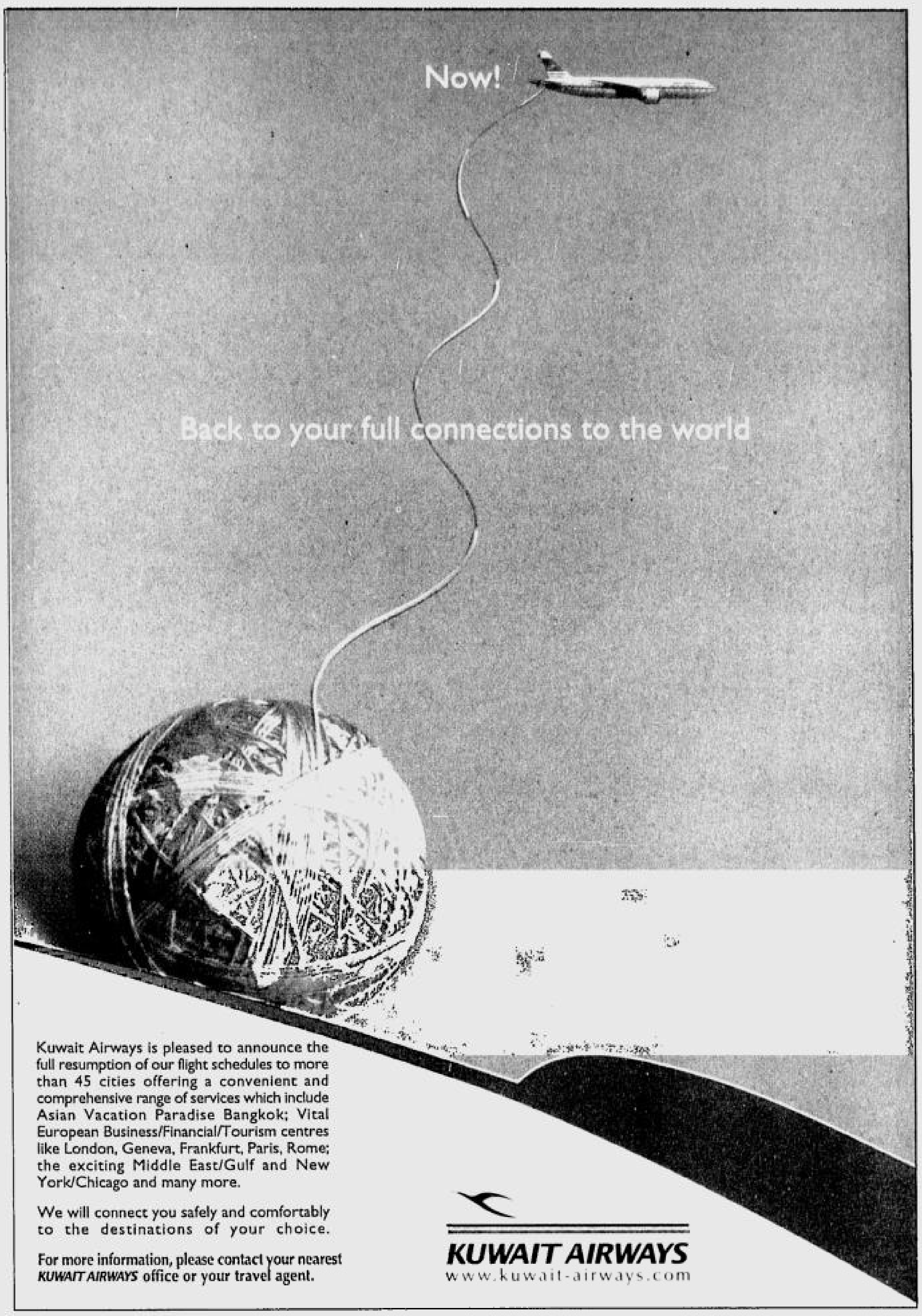
I. Calling the Roll
II. Proof of Notice of Meeting
III. Approval of the Minutes of the Annual Stockholders' Meeting held on May 24, 2002
IV. Confirmation of the Election of the Nomination Committee Members
V. Chairman/CEO's Report to Stockholders–Mr. Justo A. Ortiz
VI. Annual Report of Management on Operations for 2002– By President Victor B. Valdepeñas
VII. Appointment of External Auditor
VIII. Election of Directors for 2003-2004 term
IX. Adjournment

Only stockholders of record as of April 11, 2003 will be entitled to attend and participate at the above meeting.

Registration starts at 2:30 p.m. In the event you are unable to attend and in order to assure the presence of a quorum at the annual meeting, please accomplish the Proxy Form sent to you and return it to the undersigned at UnionBank of the Philippines, 5th Floor, SSS (Makati) Building, Ayala Avenue Corner Herrera Street, Makati City, not later than *May 15, 2003* for the validation of Proxies entitled to vote. The giving of the proxy will not affect your right to vote in the event you personally attend the meeting. The books of the Corporation will be closed from *May 2, 2003* to *May 22, 2003* in order to give the Stock and Transfer Agent time to determine and complete the list of stockholders entitled to attend the said meeting.

Very truly yours,

(Sgd.) ATTY. FE T. BECINA-MACALINO
Corporate Secretary



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People, Events & Products

Editor Aries Espinosa

aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

World of Barbie museum: A place for little girls' dreams

MOST Barbie fans trace their interest back to the excitement of being given their first doll for a birthday or Christmas present.

For over 40 years, Barbie has encapsulated the dreams and imaginations of girls worldwide with her timeless appeal and the many roles she has fitted into.

A girl of four and a mother of forty share the same interest during their own childhood days. But one wonders the difference of their Barbie dolls with their generation gap. Barbie's trends and style differs from every era.

You can now see the look of Barbie from the 1958 doll to the newest line up for 2003. Richwell Trading Corp. and Toy Kingdom celebrates the 44th year of Barbie by launching The World of Barbie museum, exclusively for Toy Kingdom Megamall and Southmall. The museum was officially opened last March 31 in Megamall headed by Ms Lucy Torres-Gomez.

At the entrance of the museum, you will see the newest line up of Barbie, Stylin' Pup Barbie, and her new friend - a playful pup named Ginger. Inside the museum, you will find the 'Birth of Barbie'. Barbie has made her debut in 1959. The 'Barbie's Breakthrough', in which contain the introduction of "Barbie Look" campaign in 1965 marked the beginning of a new life for the doll. With what collectors often refer to as the "bend-leg era", Barbie's persona, merchandising and fashion went through dramatic changes and become more imaginative. In the 'Barbie and the World Icon', Barbie was made in the image of legends like Marilyn Monroe, Audrey Hepburn and others. The 'Barbie and Her Profession', Barbie's world often reflected the importance of education in preparation for a balance career. The 'Barbie on Tales, Theater and Movies', this section revolves on theater episodes and the world of entertainment.

In the section, 'Barbie and Her Designers', her clothes are inspired by the leading couturiers. Evocations of Dior, Calvin Klein and other famous fashion designers. Barbie also made a cross-cultural journey, in the 'Barbie and the Color of the World.'

In the 'Barbie's four decades of fun, fantasy and fashion', it illustrates the continuing effort to focus the symbiosis of Barbie and fashion in the different era.

Up to date, Barbie has kept her head admirably, testing every possible vocabulary. Her true loyalty, however is to the little girls who have found in her the key to the great game of life: dreams and the world of make-believe.

THE MUSEUM was formally opened by Lucy Torres Gomez.

Barbie will have a series of fun activities and events for the month of May which include the following: The World of Barbie Mall Tour - featuring the lead doll Stylin' Pup Barbie. Little girls will have the chance to meet and greet a live Barbie model. There will also be a portion called the Stylin' Pup segment headed by a pet groomer. The mall tour will be scheduled in the following malls - SM Bicutan, May 4; SM Pampanga, May 11; SM Bacoor, May 17; SM North Edsa, May 18; SM Megamall, May 25; SM Fairview, May 31.

This activities are the joint efforts of Tender Care and Goldilocks.

RLC TOP SALES PERFORMERS

Robinsons Land Corp. - high rise buildings division headed by its general manager Danilo E. Ignacio (seated, center) and sales and marketing services director Malou T. Serna (seated, 2nd from left) recently recognized its top sales performers for 2002 by rewarding them with a 3 days/2 nights trip to Hong Kong. The second batch of awardees to receive the recognition are (1st row seated, from left) Amelie Gonzales (account manager), Roselle Liceralde (sales manager), and Karen Ciriaco (account manager). At second row (standing from left) are Rudolph Winffotter (sales manager), Dhel Delgado (account manager), Arnold Villones (account manager), Dennis Perez (sales director) and Nervin Sequitin (account manager).

AND 1 SALES MEET IN CANCUN

Officers of Relzbach Ventures Inc. (RVI), the official distributor of And 1 in the Philippines, met with And 1's top executives at the recent sales meeting in Cancun, Mexico to lay out the plans for the launch of their latest collection. Shown in photo are (from left) And 1 founder and CEO Seth Berger, And 1 VP-International Mark Mackay, RVI-retail and consignment manager Tricie Mojica, RVI-president Robert Bachmann, And 1 partner and product heaf Jay Gilbert, And 1 GM for Asia/Australia Justin Cupps and And 1 president Bart Houlahan.

FTCC INSTALLATION AND INDUCTION OF OFFICERS AND BOARD

The Federation of Transparochial Charismatic Communities (FTCC) held its installation and induction of officers and board of trustees at the Buklod ng Pag-Ibig Healing Center at 97 Balete Drive Extension, Q.C. very recently. In photo are the presiding elders of the various communities (left to right) - Jing Mendoza, Ernie Burdeos - FTCC vice president, Vic Gutierrez, Techie Rodriguez, Manny Recto - FTCC president, Fr. Joey Faller - chair, national service committee, Catholic Charismatic Renewal of the Philippines, Fr. Domie Guzman, SSP - spiritual director of Buklod ng Pag-Ibig Community, Roger Mina - FTCC treasurer, and Paolo Pabalan - FTCC secretary.

PRSP, PLDT HOUSE TURN OVER

The Public Relations Society of the Philippines (PRSP) and Philippine Long Distance Telephone Company (PLDT) recently turned over a house built for the Natcher family of Las Piñas during the Habitat for Humanity Philippines Foundation Inc. - Christmas Build held in December. Shown in photo turning over to the recipient of the house (from left) Ma. Elena Arevalo, of PLDT, the Natcher family, Ms Evelyn M. del Rosario APR, PRSP past president and community relations manager of PLDT, and Arlene Jose also from PLDT.

Meet Tiger Woods, build public schools with the Coca-Cola Golf Classic

IF THE idea of having a personal chat with Tiger Woods in Orlando, Florida doesn't get your golfing juices really flowing, the thought of helping build schoolhouses for rural Filipino public schoolchildren by merely playing the game might.

On May 7, The Coca-Cola Export Corporation in cooperation with Coca-Cola Bottlers Philippines Inc. hosts the "Coca-Cola Golf Classic" at the Langer and Couples championship courses of the Riviera Golf and Country Club in Silang, Cavite. This major invitational tournament is part of an umbrella program called Tulay Talino, an education fund drive to benefit the Little Red Schoolhouse Project of the Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines Inc.

A novel feature of the tournament is an auction like no other. There is but one item on the dock: a Tiger Woods-autographed flag used in the 2001 Masters tournament at Augusta, Georgia. The flag, which bears a hologram from the Tiger Woods Foundation attesting to the authenticity of the autograph, will be auctioned to the highest bidder.

This auction is open only to confirmed players from sponsoring firms, and a company is allowed to bid in lieu of an individual. Pre-event bidding will be until May 2, with the final bidding event on the day of the tournament itself during the awards ceremony.

There is also a raffle for all participants of the Coca-Cola Golf Classic, and the prizes to be won are certainly remarkable by any standard. Apart from the grand prize personally meeting Tiger Woods in Florida this October (with Business Class airfare and hotel accommodations for two fully paid for), there are vacation packages for two to Tokyo, Bangkok, Cebu (Shangri-La Mactan) and Boracay (Waling-Waling Beach Hotel).

But for all the wonderful prizes and good cheer, there's a more noble objective behind the Coca-Cola Golf Classic. The tournament will build more "Little Red Schoolhouses" in some of the country's most isolated communities, on sites selected by the Department of Education.

Currently numbering 50, Little Red Schoolhouses are modern public elementary schoolhouses designed for the multi-grade method of teaching endorsed by Unicef as the most cost-efficient means of providing primary education to as many children as possible.

"The Coca-Cola Golf Classic gives us an opportunity to expand our community initiatives in the Philippines," said Coca-Cola Foundation Philippines Inc. president Cecile L. Alcantara. "It is also a way to convey our gratitude for the support these community initiatives have received from the Philippine government. Through programs like Tulay Talino, we are delighted and honored to continue giving back to the communities we serve."

Leading names in business and industry have signed on as corporate sponsors of the Coca-Cola Golf Classic. To-date, these include San Miguel Corporation, PLDT/Smart, ABS-CBN, GMA Network, Globe Telecoms, Budget Rent-A-Car, FedEx/U-Freight, Taylor-Made Adidas, Jollibee, SAP Philippines, McCann-Erickson Philippines, NutraSweet Philippines, Manila Peninsula, McDonalds, Ogilvy & Mather, and Guard All-Electronic Security Systems.

Clips

A grand reunion

FINALLY, the descendants of the precursors of the movements against the repressive acts of government during the Spanish regime shall have a chance to renew old friendships and recall childhood memories of their Impos who, by their rebellion, opened the doors of the schools to Filipino women whom the "frailes" wished to consign to ignorance and ignominy. Indeed, Jose Rizal commended them and their vision in his famous letters to the 21 Women of Malolos. The Women of Malolos Foundation Inc. (Womfi) shall honor these 21 women with the grand reunion of their descendants whose families have their roots in Malolos, Bulacan. They include the Reyeses, Tantocos, Tiongsons, Crisostomos, Enriquezes, Aldabas, Santoses and Bautistas and their extended families. The reunion shall be held today 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Philippine Army Officers Club in Fort Bonifacio.

NREA fetes new officers

THE NATIONAL Real Estate Association (NREA) fetes its newly inducted officers and trustees to an honor dinner on April 28 starting 6:30 p.m. at Club Filipino, Greenhills, San Juan, Metro Manila. Part of NREA's business meeting for the month, the traditional welcome celebration for the incoming officers will have Agrarian Reform Secretary Roberto "Obet" Pagdanganan as guest of honor and speaker, as announced by architect-urban planner Felino A. Palafox Jr., NREA national president. Pagdanganan is expected to discuss the progress of agrarian reform land distribution, the bill using Certificates of Land Ownership Awards (CLOAs) as loan collateral including the DAR commitment to facilitate the process of converting lands for residential, commercial or industrial uses. For particulars, call 913-4463 and 912-3492.

Oral Comm. seminars

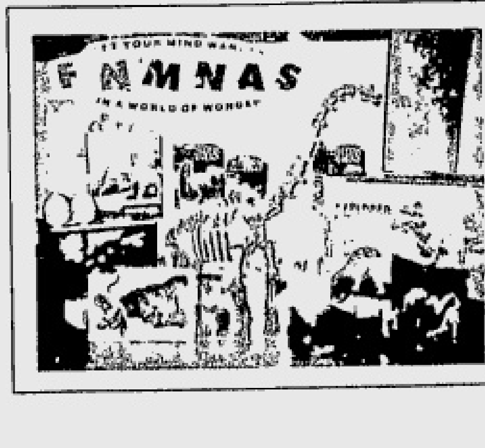
THE CORPORATE Mind presents a series of seminar-workshops to upgrade communications skills: Speaking with Confidence, a seminar-workshop aimed at building, improving and projecting confidence, from April 28 to 30, 6 to 9 p.m. and on May 1, 8:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; Rudiments of Public Speaking, May 2 and 3, 5:30 to 9:30 p.m., and Advanced Public Speaking on May 8, 8:30 to 5:30 p.m. and May 10 to 12 from 6 to 9 p.m. at the Manila Galleria Suites on ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City. Highlight of the seminar is the individual assessment of participants and the monitoring of their progress throughout the workshop. Principal lecturer in all seminars is Joscephine Gomez. For inquiries, call 687-7898 or e-mail corpmind@edsamail.com.ph.

ROTARY PROJECT TO REHABILITATE PASIG RIVER

The Steubenvuille Rotary Club of Ohio, USA, is joining the Manila Rotary Club in rehabilitating the Pasig River through the Clean River Zone project. Photo shows a typical Rotary Club meeting held in Ohio (from left): Dr. Fernando J. Manalac, past Steubenville Rotary Club president and a native of Quiapo, Manila; Louise Snider, program chair; Dr. Ronald Hofreuther, CEO of Wheeling Hospital, W. Va; and Dr. Howard Brettell, club president.

PRIMEX SCORES TRIPLE VICTORY IN CONTEST

For Primex Printers Inc., it was a triple victory at the Print Excellence '02 Contest of the Printing Industries Association of the Philippines (Piap). The Print Excellence Contest gives high recognition to printers who have achieved excellence in their printing skills. Primex Printers, Inc. garnered first prize in three of the eleven categories at the competition: Honda CRV (brochure category), Del Monte Food Service (flier category) and NCCA Architectural Treasures (calendar category). In photo are Raul Roco, former senator and Decs secretary, presenting the trophies to the representatives of Primex Printers Inc. Millie Calaquian, Willie Pineda and Maning Cabarle.



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Eyes mirror the soul and the big eyewear business

By Abe Florendo
Contributor

THE EYES are the mirrors of the soul. They also reflect the big business of eyewear. The newest to make a spectacle of this business is Viva International Group, which is launching its three branded products: Harley-Davidson Performance Eyewear, Marc Ecko Scopes and Gant Eyewear, in time for summer in the Philippines.

On hand for the debut in the country of these three eyewear brands, which have made their mark in the United States and Europe, was regional director Conrad Blandford. He has been for eight years with Viva International Group, the 25-year-old American company which has offices and direct sales forces in 11 countries and distribution in more than 50 countries.

"We've been 25 years in the US and 12 years in Europe," he says. Last year, Viva International group opened its distribution center in Hong Kong to service South East Asia and Australia. "Fortunately, I've been going around the region for 10 years and I know how it works down here. That helps because when I visit a new market and do research, I would need as long as two years to come to a final point," he says.

The final point in Manila came when he met the head of In-Look Fashion (Phils.) Inc. in Hong Kong. "It was pure coincidence. They were looking to expand their operations in the Philippines at the same time that I was looking to expand in the Philippines," says Blandford. And clinching the deal for both of them was Blandford's strong feeling that "these are the people who at the end of the day I feel comfortable dealing with." Distributorship still works on a very human, feel-good level.

Market positioning

So, how is he positioning his eyewear products in a tropical market that is already wide-eyed with, or even blinded by, them? Looking at the bigger frame, he says. "the presence of very famous names already here dictates where we should go in as well."

Meaning, to go to a level "that will be acceptable to the populace." This level is identified according to the fashion and function of the brand.

Performance eyewear

Harley-Davidson Performance Eyewear, he says, is geared exclusively for men, specifically the motorcycle rider who needs protection for his eyes against dust, sand and wind. But the fashion has shifted from the aesthetics of the rip-roaring Hell's Angels of the '70s to the more sophisticated stylishness of professionals, especially lawyers, who are now, surprisingly, the bigger customers of Harley-Davidson. Why so? Because lawyers and other professionals have more money to afford the pricey Harley Davidson. The motorbike's Milwaukee company itself has changed their global image, from hell-bent to classy, in their eyewear and other items, like leather jackets, they threw in with their motorbikes.

Eponymous brand

Marc Ecko Scopes, the eponymous brand of the popular New York fashion designer, is 'great fun, it's for everyone.' But with a difference. "In this globalized world that we live in," Blandford says, "everything is available for everyone at any price. But what's exciting about this brand is that every single frame or sunglass is completely different from what you'd normally expect to find in the market. It's so different from what everyone has."

Young and trendy

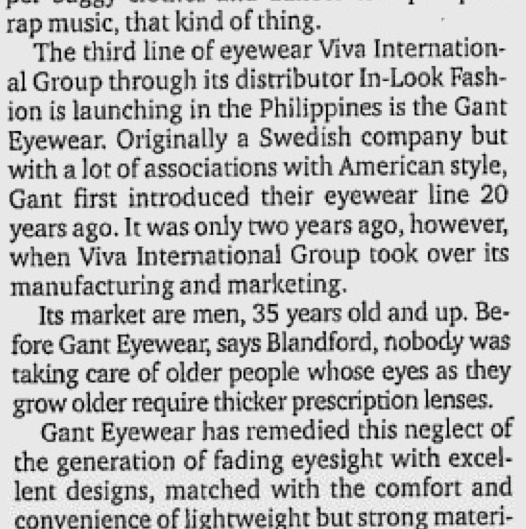
The Marc Ecko Scopes is designed for a young and trendy market, 16-25 years old, its features including special color lenses, design and size, for today's generation that wears super baggy clothes and dances to hip-hop or rap music, that kind of thing.

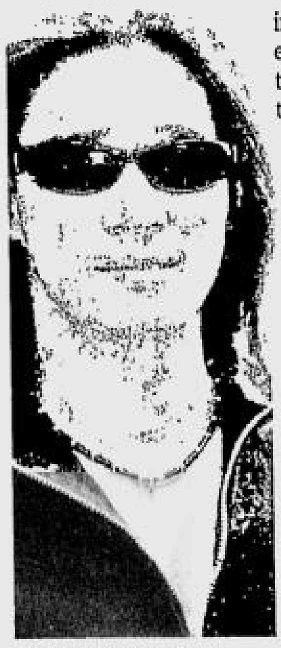
The third line of eyewear Viva International Group through its distributor In-Look Fashion is launching in the Philippines is the Gant Eyewear. Originally a Swedish company but with a lot of associations with American style, Gant first introduced their eyewear line 20 years ago. It was only two years ago, however, when Viva International Group took over its manufacturing and marketing.

Its market are men, 35 years old and up. Before Gant Eyewear, says Blandford, nobody was taking care of older people whose eyes as they grow older require thicker prescription lenses.

Gant Eyewear has remedied this neglect of the generation of fading eyesight with excellent designs, matched with the comfort and convenience of lightweight but strong materials, specifically titanium and stainless steel, whose added advantage is that it's all allergy-free.

Lightweight material has been state-of-art technology for eyeglasses since the last few years. "It feels almost like you're wearing nothing," he says. Another innovation is the gradient shade, where Marc Ecko Scopes has been trending, "This season you'll be seeing exciting two-tones, darker at the top and gradually lightening towards the bottom, like silver and bronze, satin gold and brown, platinum and gray-blue or plum and violet.


MARC Ecko scopes


HARLEY-Davidson

Acceptable brands

"You are also going to be seeing more of flash silver in sunglasses," says Blandford. It's so called because at certain angles the lenses flash silver.

Of Viva International Group's numerous client brands, why did they choose to bring in Marc Ecko, Harley-Davidson and Gant to the Philippines?

"Our research into the market here has shown that these are the brands that will be acceptable and affordable," says Blandford. In other words, these brands span the bridge between, say, Ray-Ban on one end and Calvin Klein on the other.

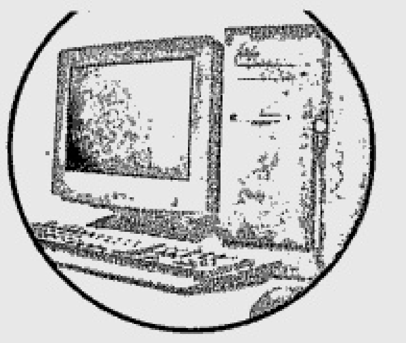
The research has been taking him to more airports than he would care to see yet some more. "You have no idea how much I travel," he says, grinning. For instance, for his new Asian market, which is based in Hong Kong, he has been traveling all the way east up to Korea, including China, for the launch in April—by the end of April he expects to have done Vietnam, India and the Philippines—and all the way down south to Australia for a summer launch.

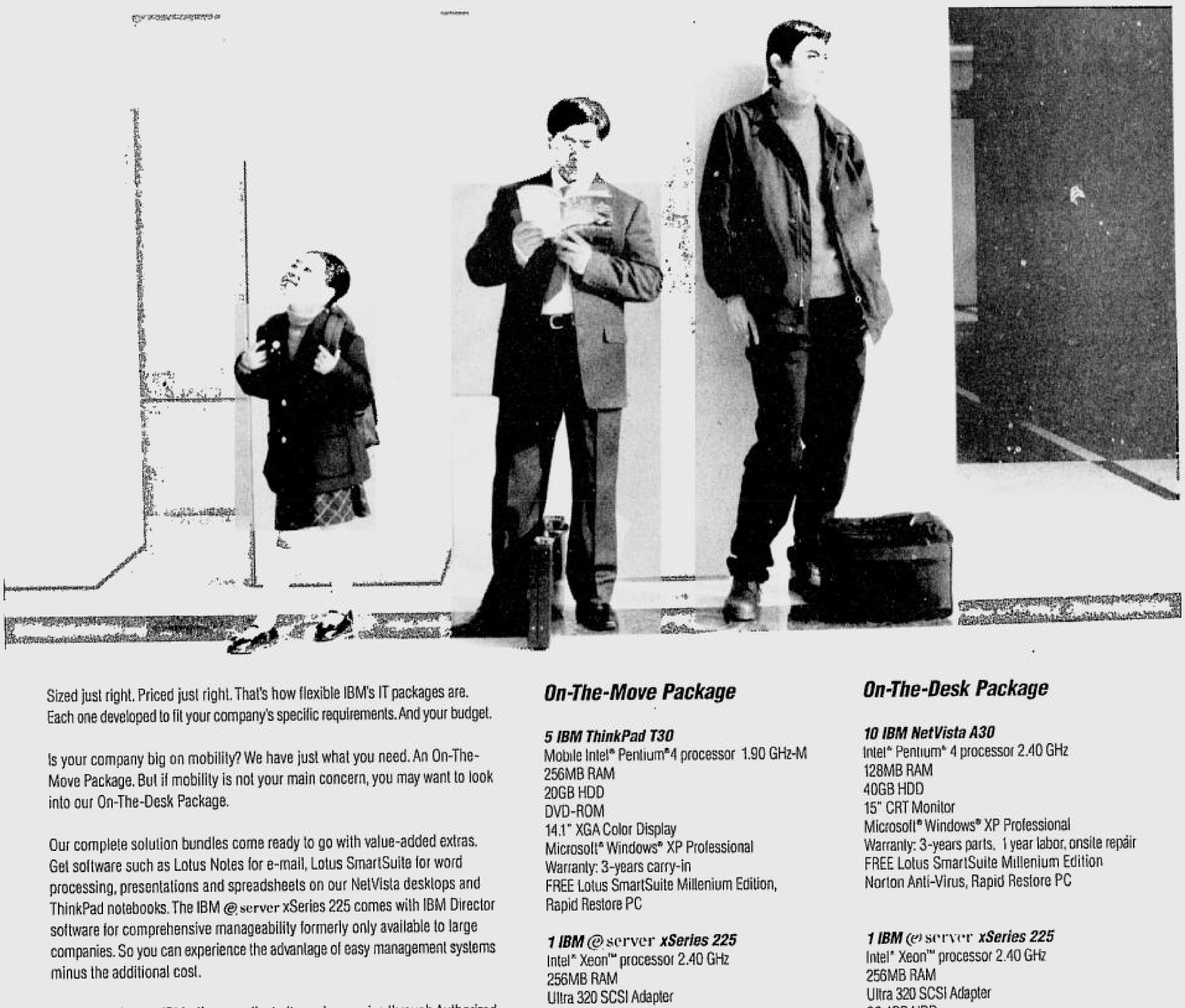
"And that's it for the moment," he sighs, "because sometimes I need to sleep."

But his expectations of his new markets will keep him awake at all hours. He's not pulling his shaded Marc Ecko Scopes over his eyes but he has a silver-flash view of the prospects of the Philippine market.

"A few months from today," he says. "I shall be walking in the Philippines and see Harley-Davidson, Marc Ecko and Gant eyewear in the right stores." And worn by more and more people in the streets.

GANT eyewear





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Booklatan sa Bayan

The Integrated Book Development Program of the National Book Development Board

By Carlo June Panila and Roderick Feliciano

Romelia Payopelin smiles as she recounts those days when she would wake up very early to traverse the rocky meadows of Tapaz and catch the three-hour trip from Capiz to Iloilo City only to buy the latest textbooks for her children.

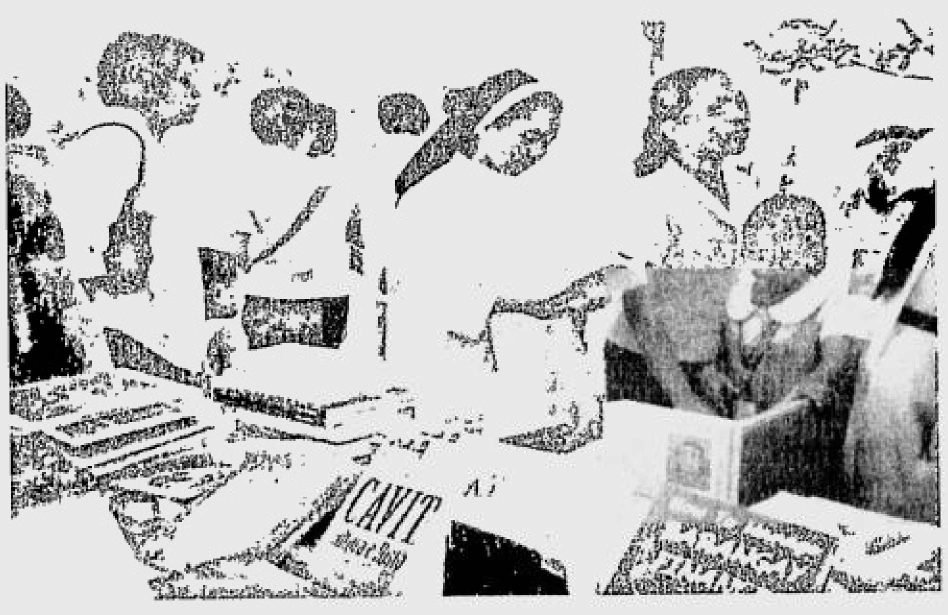
To the 41-year-old mother of two high-school students and a fifth grader, a small public library or a commercial bookstore located in the nearby Roxas City or in her very hometown Tapaz "will surely be a relief."

"Actually, we have the provincial library in Roxas City where we can read and sometimes borrow books. But most of the reading materials there are too old, dating back as far as the '70s," Payopelin said in Capizeño dialect.

"Besides, Tapaz is very far from the city. It's not practical to travel that far just to see some books. I might as well sell at the *talipapa. May* income *pa*," added Payopelin, who has been a widow for four years and earns a living as a fish vendor and dressmaker.

BOOK LOVERS ALL. NBDB Chairman Dennis Gonzalez (second from left) huddles with Capiz Vice-Governor Victor Tanco, (from left) Board Member Gilbert Ardivilla, NBDB Executive Director Gemma Regina Cunanan, Panay Mayor Felipe Barredo, Board Member Abel Martinez, and Jamindan Mayor Winston Advincula during the opening of the Regional Book Fair at La Hacienda Hotel, Roxas City.

Before the *Booklatan sa Bayan* program of the National Book Development Board (NBDB) was brought to Capiz, only five towns in the entire province of 16 municipalities had a public library and only two commercial bookstores that mostly sold school supplies can be found in the provincial capital.



BOOK ENTHUSIASTS. Capiceños enthuse over the first-ever Regional Book Fair in Roxas City.

Now enjoying the accessibility of new and slightly used books in Tapaz' municipal library, Payopelin and her *kababayans* need not spend time and money to scamper to Iloilo City to get the latest books.

Roxas City and 16 municipalities in Capiz—including Tapaz—received thousands of books accumulated by NBDB through donations from local publishers nationwide. Apart from these, "NBDB also gave us bookshelves, tables, and chairs to start our own municipal library," disclosed Mayor Romualdo Exmundo Jr. of Tapaz, Mayor Raymund Locsin of President Roxas, and Mayor Heracleo Benjamin of Duamarao.

NBDB's book drive for Capiz amassed not less than 3,000 books in just a month. These books included new and slightly used textbooks, Tagalog novelettes, dictionaries, self-help and how-to books, literary anthologies, and even Manila Critics Circle and Gintong Aklat award-winning books.

Booklatan sa Bayan was launched in September last year to jumpstart NBDB's Integrated Book Development Program, which aims to improve the accessibility of books in the provinces, to encourage Filipino authorship, to help the country's library system become more effective, and to improve indigenous technologies utilized in book publishing.

"The program focuses on capability building of book industry players and on the provision of accessibility and availability of books to Filipinos, especially in the regions," stressed NBDB Executive Director Gemma Regina Cunanan.

Echoing the government's call for a strong republic, Cunanan believes that "for us to build a thriving democracy, our people should be equipped with the basic tools of literacy" and that "for us to eradicate poverty, we must destroy the roots of ignorance by building, among others, a nation of readers."

In 1994, Prof. Shigeo Minowa of Japan conducted a study on the Philippine book market, and he found out that "all 62 million Filipinos (based on 1990 statistics) can buy only 0.66 books per year given their per capita income." The figure appears ludicrous when compared to the 7.8 books available at that time to Americans, Russians, Japanese, and Germans, who not only received better education than Filipinos then—and up to now—but also enjoyed more affordable books.

According to the NBDB secretariat chief, such data, though culled nine years ago, "is still relatively true today for 80 million Filipinos," who, by and large, place books and reading at the bottom of their priority list.

"The reason behind is not the country's literacy rate but the ridiculously high prices of both imported and locally published books we have here," Cunanan said.

Minowa's study revealed that "book prices in the Philippines were 10 times higher than those in the United States, Russia, Japan, or Germany." The country's heavy dependance on exorbitantly priced imported books (80% of the total books in circulation at that time) largely contributes to the low accessibility of books in the Philippines. "Added to this is the high price of domestically produced books, predominantly school textbooks," the study showed.

While there continues to be a lack of data in the Philippine book market, it is against this backdrop that the NBDB piloted its *Booklatan sa Bayan* program in the Visayas, specifically in Capiz, where there is an existing network and strong linkaging with the local government units.

"The success of this program lies on its sustainability. This isn't just a one-shot thing. *Booklatan sa Bayan* is a long-term endeavor. That is why we need to have the support of recipient LGUs to ensure that they will nurture whatever we have sown in their locality," Cunanan stressed.

"So far, we have encouraging results. Many municipalities in Capiz have now started their own public libraries," the NBDB executive director said.

In a survey conducted with 697 *Booklatan* participants and ordinary folks in Capiz, 78% said that the program was relevant, while 22% said otherwise. Forty-five percent also held that the program's implementation was satisfactory, 40% said it was very satisfactory, and 6% deemed it was excellent.

The survey also showed that 58% of those who participated in the program have increased their time in reading books, while 24% became more critical in their choice of the quality of what they read, and 12% have developed some form of awareness on the value of books.

On the other hand, 66% of the *Booklatan* participants became interested in venturing into book publishing either as an author or as a publisher, while 34% of them were a bit speculative of the idea.

One of the most tangible effects of the program is the establishment of a *Libro* franchise bookstore in Roxas City. Through the franchise, the owner has been able to consign books from Metro Manila.

A scheme developed by one of NBDB's stakeholders, the Nationwide Book Network, *Libro* offers a working business model for running a bookstore. It provides the store's operating system, trademark, and technical support from authorities and experts in the Philippine publishing and distribution industry.

All one needs to have a *Libro* franchise is at least 15-sq.m. store space, bookshelves, an internet-ready computer, and a telefax. Franchise fee is P75,000.00 only, while startup cash is estimated at P250,000.00.

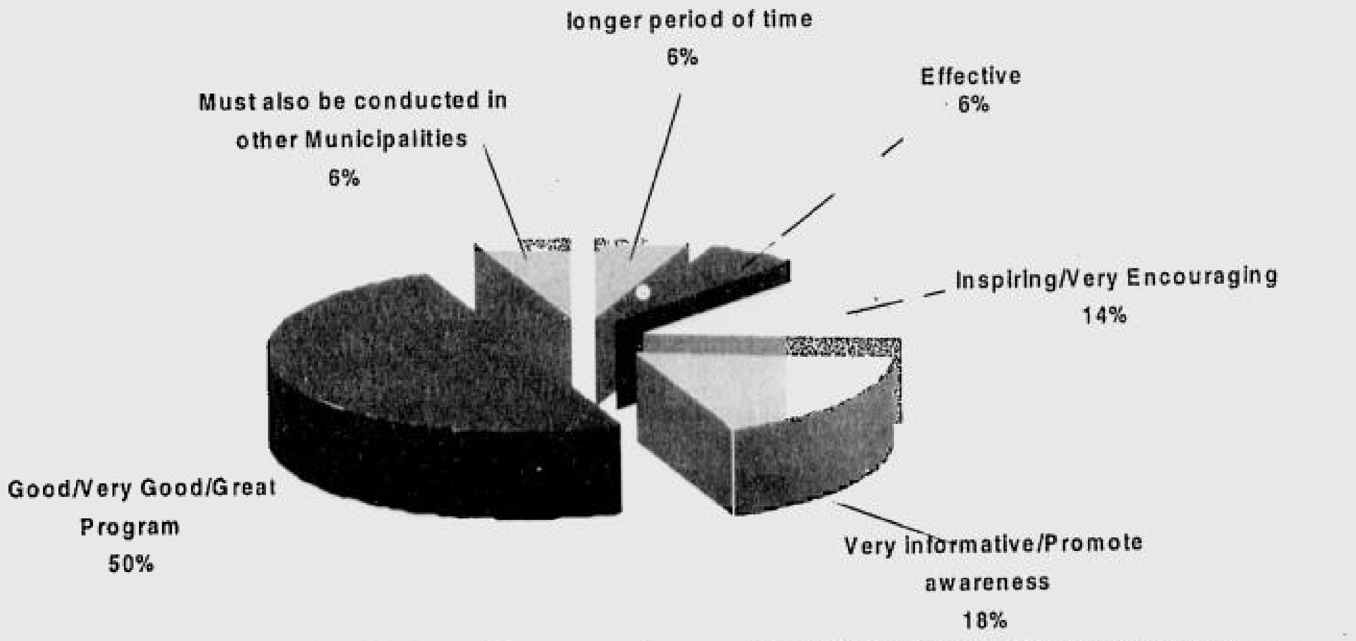
Because of its successful implementation in Capiz, Booklatan sa Bayan—at the request of several local leaders in the different parts of the country—will be replicated in Legaspi City, Albay come May 11 to 17, San Fernando City, La Union and Zamboanga del Sur in July, Davao Oriental in August, and more to come this year.

"We've been receiving requests from mayors and congressmen to do the *Booklatan* in their localities," told Cunanan. "They believed in what we do; they believed in what NBDB does," she said while smiling.

Armed with its *Booklatan sa Bayan* program, NBDB dreams of more Filipinos of all ages and all walks of life enjoying access to and reading a wider selection of quality and cheaper books and related materials. It envisions public libraries and commercial bookstores in every region, province, municipality, and even barangay nationwide.

Yes, the dream of making this country a nation of readers and book lovers may be a bit far off for now, but NBDB has already taken humble yet meaningful strides towards that dream.

What were the general comments on the NBDB *Booklatan sa Bayan* Program?



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1) Must have the financial capacity to run a Gasul dealership.

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9.	Iriga City, Camarines Sur	P3.0M	05/15/03

Note: Above capital requirement needed for actual station operation; No up-front money is given to Petron.

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Preference shall be given to applicants residing near the station being applied for. Previous applicants need not apply.

Please secure your application forms from Luzon Retail, Petron Corporation Jesus St., Pandacan, Manila c/o Ms. Sharon Sayson at tel. 563-8521 Loc. 282.
Submit application forms not later than the deadline specified for each location.

(PDI – April 27, 2003)

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Tulong Pilipino. Sulong Pilipinas.

NOTICE OF ANNUAL STOCKHOLDERS' MEETING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the annual meeting of stockholders of GSIS Mutual Fund, Inc. will be held at Level 8, Executive Lounge, GSIS Headquarters, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City on 30 April 2003 at 2:00 p.m.

The agenda for the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Certification by the Corporate Secretary on the Sending of Notices and Existence of a Quorum
3. Reading and Approval of the Minutes of the Last Stockholders' Meeting
4. Ratification of Corporate Acts
5. Election of Directors
6. Approval of the Disengagement of the Worldwide Investment Management Company of the Philippines, Inc. as Fund Manager and the Termination of its Fund Management Agreement
7. Approval of the Appointment of Philam Asset Management, Inc. as New Fund Manager and the Execution of a New Fund Management Agreement
8. Other Matters
9. Adjournment

Registration starts at 1:30 p.m. and closes at 2:00 p.m. The meeting is expected to end at 4:00 p.m.

Definitive copies of the Information Statement for the annual stockholders' meeting will be made available during the meeting.

(Sgd.) **RICARDO MA. P.G. ONGKIKO**
Corporate Secretary

(PDI--April 27, 2003)

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Employment Expo 2003 at Glorietta [May 12 to 14]

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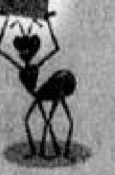

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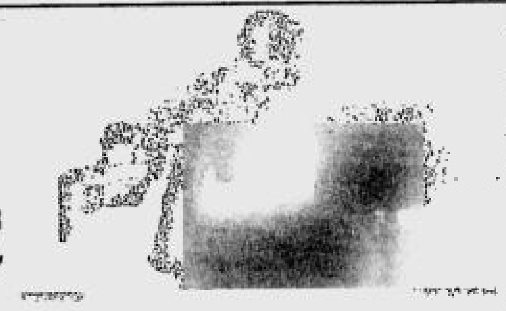
Mother's Day Treat



Warm your mom's heart with your deeply felt love note telling her how special she is to you.

On **May 11, Mother's Day, INQUIRER CLASSIFIEDS**, the widest reaching classifieds, will highlight a *"Mother's day special section"* for personal ads dedicated to the first woman in all our lives.

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Thanks for all you do.

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Thank you for always helping us to remember what is important in life... and today it is YOU!

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Mommy Tess,

If there was a day for everything you have given me as a mother, it would be Mother's day everyday. I love you very much!

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2 col x 5 cm – P1,000

Mama Rita,

Thank you for always being there, Mama. Happy Mother's Day!

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Boracay thrives amid outbreak of SARS

By Sharon Wendy A. Robas

WITH the outbreak of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) in the Asian region including the Philippines now, staying at home would probably be the safest place these days.

But with the scorching heat of the summer, this scenario is unlikely. Besides, what is summer without the sun, sea and sand?

Boracay Island still tops the list as one of the best summer getaways in the Philippines.

In our trip to this island early this month, the place was crowded with tourists, both foreign and local.

Who are the visitors

(Reports say number of visitors even doubled during the Holy Week break.)

Filipinos topped the lists of visitors according to the 2002 records of the office of the Department of Tourism located inside the island.

According to the DOT data, a total of 300,792 tourists visited the island in 2002. This comprised 222,900 domestic tourists and 77,892 foreign visitors.

Judith T. Icotanim, officer in charge of DOT-Boracay field office, shares that among the foreigners.

Koreans topped the list of tourists in Boracay, touted by many as "paradise." Last year, Koreans numbered 47,717 followed by Americans with 5,195.

In January and February of this year, records show Filipinos remain the largest in number followed again by Koreans with 4,340 and 4,586, respectively.

Peak seasons

Peak seasons are January to May and October to December.

Iconatim also shares that although the increase in tourism is not as abrupt as it was in the early '90s, business in Boracay is up compared to previous years.

Most tourists nowadays are pre-booked, noticed Icotanim, adding it is becoming the "trend" among Boracay visitors although there are still few walk-in patrons. Rates are higher during the peak seasons and vary during the lean months.

Boracay Island is composed of more than 200 resorts, which cater to every visitor's taste. The DOT also does a sampling report on the occupancy rate in four establishments classified as Class AAA, AA and A.

Sampling results in 2002 showed the month where the following resorts get high percentage: Boracay Regency (AAA), 84.54 percent in May, Club Panoly (AAA), 49.10 percent, October; Le Soleil de Boracay (AA) 86.64 percent in December; and Villa de Oro (A) 49.15 percent in May.

Boracay Regency recorded more than 50 percent occupancy rates in all the months last year.

Restaurants, bars, etc.

We also noticed that restaurants, bars and stores in Boracay are packed with clients especially at night.

D'Mall de Boracay, a high-end "talipapa" even has ongoing constructions for additional stores.

The more popular palengke or talipapa is always full with visitors, until closing time, buying souvenirs and other items from Boracay. With the tourism department's "Wow Philippines" campaign, more tourists are expected to come to this island known for its pristine beaches and white, powdery sand.

FILIPINOS account for 70 percent of Boracay's visitors, the rest are foreigners, mostly Koreans.

Cash grows from her mango trees

By Tonette Orejas
PDI Central Luzon Desk

CANDELARIA, Zambales—Evelyn Grace uses her homegrown dinamulag or carabao mango variety to make dried mangoes, puree, wine and jelly. The seeds go into the Garce family's nursery here that churns out mango seedlings by the hundreds.

The peelings, she said, are dried, converted into organic fertilizers or feed for the chickens the Graces raise in their home-cum-work place in Barangay Lauis here.

"*Walang tapon* (No wastage)," Grace, 45, says.

She says it is through that principle, matched by hard work, that she and her husband Rudel have been able to earn more than enough to meet the family's day-to-day needs and save for their future.

Their sons are 16 and eight years old and are enrolled in public schools.

Growing mangoes and making foodstuffs from these are Grace's way of showing that the mango can really uplift the lives of farming families.

That, Grace points out, is an advocacy she has taken to heart since she worked for the Farms Systems Development Corp. (FSDC) in the latter years of martial rule.

The late strongman Ferdinand Marcos formed the FSDC by virtue of Presidential Decree 381 to help develop the market for Philippine agriculture.

In Zambales, one of the provinces where the FSDC implemented the program, Grace learned the rudiments of farming by working with farmers, scientists and market specialists. The corporation was dissolved immediately after the People Power Revolution in 1986.

Firm believer

She, however, remained a firm believer in the potential of mangoes for economic development so Grace started her own mango orchard that same year.

For a start, she planted 20 trees in a 2,200 square-meter lot that Rudel's family owns in Candelaria. Grace, a native of San Antonio town, showcased the latest mango growing technology in their farms to her neighbors.

By 1991, Grace and some friends helped established the Kaisa Farmers Cooperative. Its aim was to help the mango industry in the province by helping the growers in obtaining loans and technology.

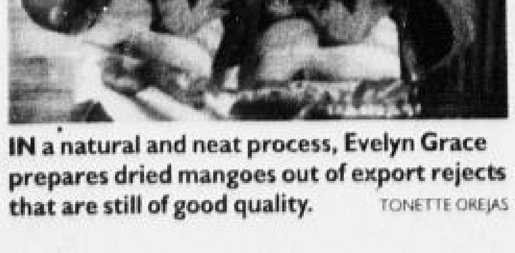
In 1995, she set up her own enterprise, the Green Thumb Agri Products, which became her corporate vehicle in mango processing.

"There were export rejects of good quality that ended up being rotten because the prices were so low," she says.

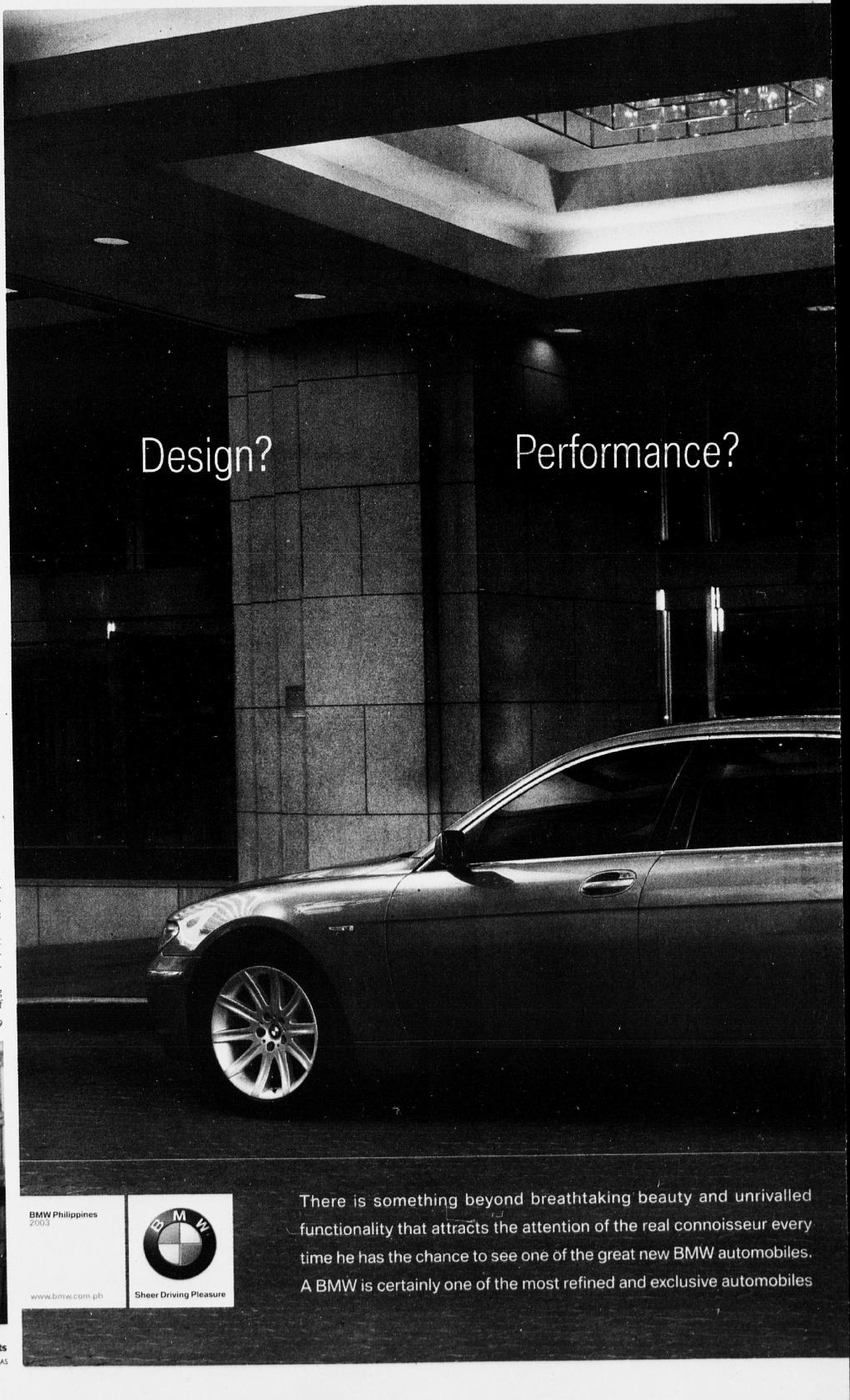
On the side, she took contracts for fruit bagging, believing that this method developed in the Visayan region was a way of improving the yield.

This laborious technique entailed covering every fruit with loose paper pack made out of

CASH/ B9



IN a natural and neat process, Evelyn Grace prepares dried mangoes out of export rejects that are still of good quality. TONETTE OREJAS



There is something beyond breathtaking beauty and unrivalled functionality that attracts the attention of the real connoisseur every time he has the chance to see one of the great new BMW automobiles. A BMW is certainly one of the most refined and exclusive automobiles

Bankers learn more by giving a helping hand

From page B16

efiting the SOS children.

The bank's commitment, however, goes beyond just providing material help to the SOS Villages.

Almost 60 percent of the bank's 600-strong officers and staff have done volunteer work at the SOS Village in Alabang. Many volunteered their weekends while others supported campaigns to solicit books for the learning centers or taught the children how to read.

"What is important is that many of our employees have developed personal relationships with the children and these children need many friends," Raman said.

Stanchart employees also spend time and effort to teach the children how to write, appreciate music, play sports and even do a bit of gardening.

A social responsibility committee under the chief executive officer oversees the bank's corporate responsibility program. The committee is composed of officers from the different departments, and it has since managed to put up charity-related events every month.

Happy villages

Stanchart chose to make the SOS Village the cornerstone of its corporate social responsibility program because of its unique program to help orphaned and neglected children become the best adults that they can be.

The SOS Children's Village concept was born in 1949 out of the vision of German doctor Hermann Gmeiner's conviction that help for orphaned and neglected children can only become better citizens if they grow up within a family and at home.

SCB Global Markets dealers Juanito Imperial (left) and Don Ching Uy (right) make clay creations with SOS children.

So instead of the typical orphanage or child care center where the children sleep in dormitories with a number of social development workers taking care of them, the SOS children are split into groups of eight to ten with each group forming their own family.

They are brothers and sisters and they live under the care of an SOS mother, just like a natural family. They have their own house and about 14 to 20 houses comprise a Children's Village.

The SOS Children's Village take special pride in their "mothers" because these are women who have dedicated their lives to children not their own. The children, on the other hand, live together as brothers and sisters. Real siblings are kept together.

Gmeiner's concept was met with scorn when he first presented it to the church and government in Germany but he persisted and there are now Children's Villages spread in 131 countries.

Gmeiner himself was present when the first SOS Village was set up in Batangas in 1964. He came in 1963 upon the invitation of the former Austrian consul Dr. George V. Winternitz and his wife Susie, who have been living in the Philippines for 30 years and sponsored a child to the SOS Children's Village in Austria since 1957.

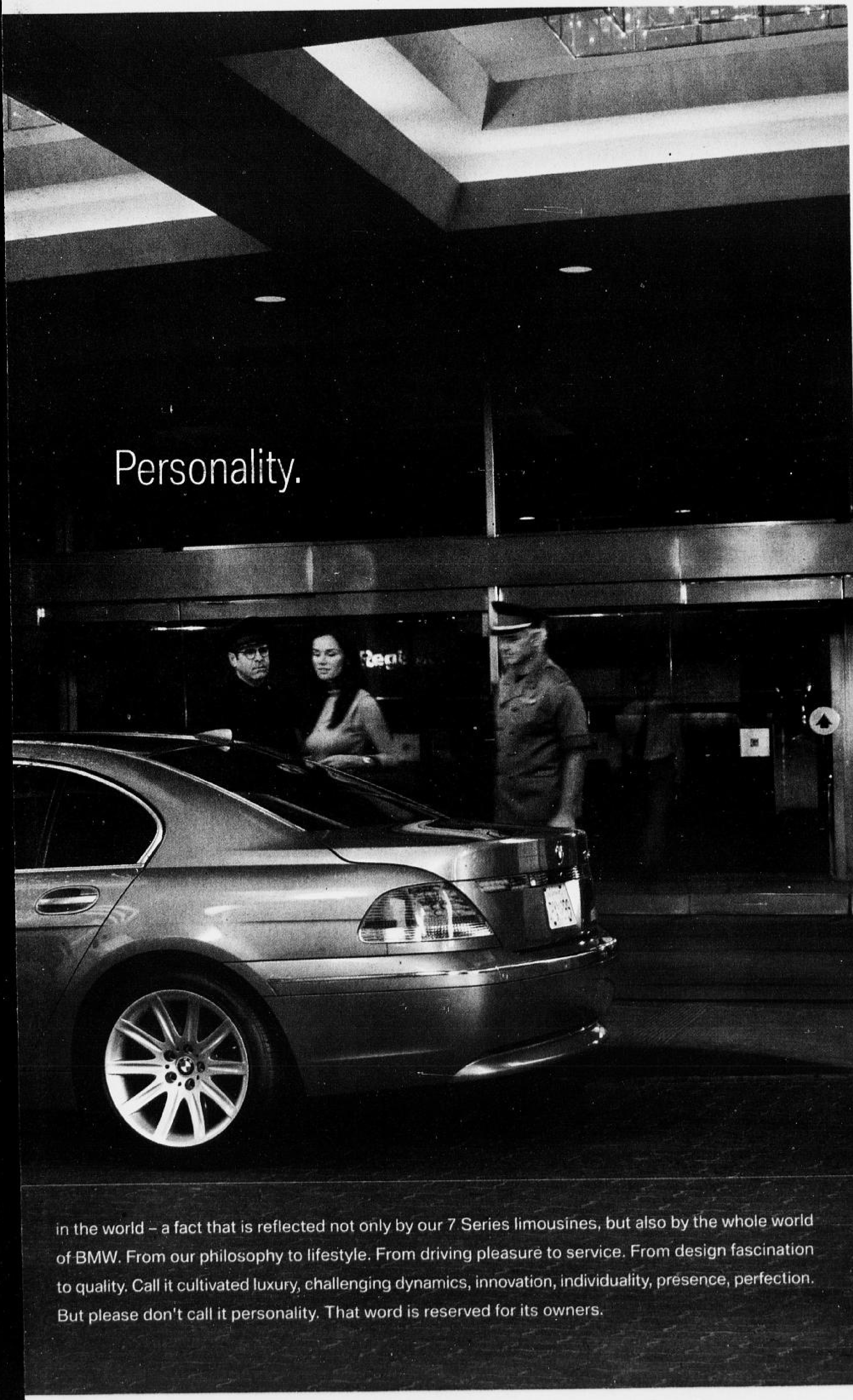
From that first village, there are now close to 14 SOS Children's Villages in the Philippines that take care of 780 children and 96 "mothers".

Corporate values

It is through their close work with the SOS families that Stanchart employees live the virtues that define the bank, which are courage, responsive, international, creative and trustworthy.

Stanchart CEO Simon Morris says: "I am humbled by their passion and dedication to go beyond their professional work and offer their time to support the disadvantaged children of SOS."

"I hope that our engagement for SOS Children's Villages could encourage other sectors to extend more help," Morris adds.



in the world – a fact that is reflected not only by our 7 Series limousines, but also by the whole world of BMW. From our philosophy to lifestyle. From driving pleasure to service. From design fascination to quality. Call it cultivated luxury, challenging dynamics, innovation, individuality, presence, perfection. But please don't call it personality. That word is reserved for its owners.

Cash grows . . .

From page B8

used newspapers. She says this protected the fruits from harmful pests and the harsh winds.

She invested a portion of the income from these ventures into planting 20 more trees. Grace also went into contract growing, tapping her neighbors on a 40-60 (percent) sharing on gross sales.

Two years later, she started making dried mangoes.

"I prepared it as a snack for my children. I did not put preservatives into it because I wanted them to eat healthy food," Grace recalls.

Word of mouth

She gave out the excess as gifts and tokens to her balikbayan classmates at the Luzon Technical Institute.

Then word soon spread about the sweets that Grace made. The volume of the orders ranged from two to 10 kilograms then eventually increasing to several dozens. Just this April, she says the orders had grown to 350 kg.

From just her, Rudel and their children, the production unit has also expanded to include four relatives. But just the same, Grace handles the quality control and packaging. Rudel takes charge of the peeling, slicing, cooking and sun drying.

The couple maintains a very neat workplace because as Grace explains, "food must always be clean."

The windows and doors are enclosed by screens, pots, vats and other kitchen utensils are sanitized and the bamboo drying pads are enclosed in plastic sheets.

Although no preservatives are used for her foodstuff, Grace says her dried mangoes, for instance, lasts for eight months because of the natural and neat production process.

In the recently held Zambales mango festival, Grace sold 70 kg or 700 packs of dried mangoes. A 100-gram pack sells for P40.

The mango puree sells for P40 for every 1.5-liter container. Most of the buyers are mothers with school-aged children.

The mango jelly and wine, Grace's newest addition to the by-products of mangoes are not yet produced on a commercial scale. But their neighbors are constant buyers, she says.

Packaging is still Grace's concern nowadays and the Department of Science and Technology is helping her.

She still works as a micro-finance officer of the Sambali Area Development Bank. She has been on the job for five years but considers mango growing her main source of income.

Women over men

"Many in the mango business are women because they are not *pulitikeros* like the men," she explains. By *pulitikero*, she means being easily swayed by requests of friends.

"When we women say this is the price, the delivery time and the quantity, we really mean it," she says.

Also, women have passion for details, a trait that Grace says is needed in the quality control of the fruits and the foodstuff.

Grace says that she has held on to the value of persistence through the the years that she has constantly pushed for an improvement of the province's mango industry and in the short time that she has explored cash products out of it.

"*Ako yung taong hindi sumusuko* (I'm the type of person who does not give up easily)," she says.

She also prefers that her endeavor remains small and family-based in scale because it is the way to survive in an industry where traders and agricultural suppliers still maintain a monopoly.

She once lost P100,000 in a single harvest season and never wanted to lose that much money again.

THE GRACE couple grows mangoes, makes foodstuff and plants rice and gabi during the off-harvest season. TONETTE OREJAS

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Gnhts. new4br 2.2M 9487112

PASIG

4 Sale 5br PHOENIX Subd. Pasig 410sqm 636-7974 Rudy

Reasonably Priced Semi Comm LA-700 0917-5218338

QUEZON CITY

4 Sale Adonis ACROPOLIS 5br 414sqm 636-7974 Rudy

•Proj2 new 9210265/9219967•

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

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RESIDENTIAL

CEBU CITY

1 H&L\Lots 20 & 6-B Paseo Annette Ma Luisa Est Park Subd, Banilad Cebu / TLA-1,158 *Min Bid - P5,211,000*

2 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Pt Lapu Lapu City * / FA-60 *Min Bid - P2,460,000*

3 Res'l Condo/Unit 3-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-173.30 *Min Bid - P7,925,000*

4 Res'l Condo/Unit 7-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-177.75 *Min Bid - P8,299,000*

5 Res'l Condo/Unit 4-B Villa Nautica Condo, Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-173.30 *Min Bid - P8,445,000*

6 Res'l Condo/Unit 2-B Villa Nautica Condo Coral Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-179.30 *Min Bid - P8,727,000*

7 Res'l Condo/Unit 1-3 A/B Eastpt Villa I Condo Coral Pt Engano, Lapu Lapu* FA-343.50 *Min Bid - P19,192,000*

8 Res'l Condo/Unit 4-A/B Villa Marina Condo Coral Pt Cmpd, Punta Engano, Lapu Lapu FA-363.05 *Min Bid - P19,968,000*

9 Lot/Lot 2-C-6-A, Nat'l Rd, Busay / LA 900 *Min Bid - P810,000*

* *Includes Club Share*

ILOILO CITY

10 Agri Lot/Lot 8 B 31 Tipacla, Ajuy, Iloilo LA 80,483 *Min Bid - P274,000*
(Int, no road/right of way)

11 Lot/L1150 B Calle de la Rama, Monica LA 383 *Min Bid - P843,000*

BRGY PANGI (NOW) GENES VIEJO, PASSI, ILOILO

12 Lot/ L1 B2 / LA 265 *Min Bid - P203,000*

13 Lot / L2 B2 / LA 243 *Min Bid - P186,000*

14 Lot / L3 B2 / LA 256 *Min Bid - P196,000*

15 Lot / L4 B2 / LA 276 *Min Bid - P212,000*

16 Lot / L1 B3 / LA 230 *Min Bid - P176,000*

17 Lot / L3 B3 / LA 220 *Min Bid - P169,000*

BACOLOD CITY

18 H&L/ L12 B3 Vista Alegre Subd LA 90 / FA 42 *Min Bid - P282,000*

JUST BRING P20,000 (CASH OR MC) SHOW MONEY TO QUALIFY TO BID FOR EACH PROPERTY.

RESIDENTIAL

19 Lot / L 23 B 50 Sta Clara Subd, Bac City (with occupants) LA-1,000 *Min Bid - P600,000*

20 H&L/Lots 1&7 B 10 Taculing cor S Horseshoe Rds Pleasantville Subd, Taculing, Bacolod City TLA-976 / FA- 415 *Min Bid - P3,900,000*

NEGROS OCCIDENTAL

21 Agri Lot/Lot 455-C *Min Bid - P1,700,000* WITHDRAWN

22 Agri Lot/Lot 455-C *Min Bid - P1,700,000* WITHDRAWN

23 Agri Lot / Lot 283-A, Tortosa, Manapla LA 151,384 *Min Bid - P1,931,000*

BUTUAN

24 Lot/L8 B36, Alviola Vill Ampayon / LA 308 *Min Bid - P87,000*

25 Lot/L7 B36, Alviola Vill Ampayon / LA 311 *Min Bid - P88,000*

26 Lot/L11 B36, Alviola Vill Ampayon / LA 317 *Min Bid - P89,000*

27 Vacant Lot / Lot 2, Bo. Bading / LA 5,960 *Min Bid - P487,000*

28 Lot / Lot 411-A-3, Doongan Rd / LA 1,520 *Min Bid - P1,938,000*

OZAMIS CITY

29 Lot / Lot # 793-B Motor Cmpd Bernad St., Bo. Carangan LA - 2,331 *Min Bid - P1,000,000*

CAPIZ

30 Agri/Fishpond/Lot -A Tico, Panay, Capiz LA-100,017 *Min Bid - P1,300,000*

DAVAO CITY

31 H&L /L4 & 26 B1, Lanang/LA 680/FA 354 *Min Bid - P2,825,000*

32 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-D Nat'l Hi-way Int Bud-bud/ LA 20,393 *Min Bid - P2,774,000*

33 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-C Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA - 20,585 *Min Bid - P3,614,000*

34 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-A Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA - 20,107 *Min Bid - P3,619,000*

35 Agri Lot/L596-A-B-K-3-B Nat'l Hi-way Int. Bud-bud/ LA 22,789 *Min Bid - P3,874,000*

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

36 Lot/ Lot 15, Brgy. Balulang / LA 9,302 *Min Bid - P1,820,000*

37 Agri Lot /L#3070, Bo. Canitoan/LA - 50,076 *Min Bid - P2,350,000*

TAGBILARAN

38 Lot/L 3260-A, C P Garcia North Ave. Taloto / LA 5,500 *Min Bid - P7,072,000*

FIXED 13% INTEREST PA FOR FIRST 3 YEARS, 15% INTEREST FOR NEXT 12 YEARS

COMMERCIAL

CEBU

39 Lot/L3 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100 *Min Bid - P12,320,000*

40 Lot/L4 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100 *Min Bid - P12,320,000*

41 Lot/L5 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100 *Min Bid - P12,320,000*

42 Lot/L6 Cabahug St Cebu Port Area Cebu City / LA-1,100 *Min Bid - P12,320,000*

43 Lot/L1 Kaoshiung cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / LA-1,415 *Min Bid - P17,830,000*

44 Lot/L2 Cabahug cor F Urot Sts Cebu Port Area, Cebu / LA-1,415 *Min Bid - P17,830,000*

45 Lot/L7 Cabahug cor Osmeña Blvd Cebu Port Area / LA-1,416 *Min Bid - P18,118,000*

46 Ind Lot w/ Whse/Ofc Bldg/Lot 1718-B Casili-Cubacub Rd Casili (Tawason), Mandaue LA - 4,000 *Min Bid - P9,028,000*

47 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/ Lot 75-F AS Fortuna St., Banilad, Mandaue City LA-2,960 / TFA-1,468 *Min Bid - P32,041,000*

48 Lot / L 1-5, 7-10 Blk 4 & 6 - B Salvador St, Labangon, Cebu City TLA-3,344/TFA-3,299 *Min Bid - P20,567,000*

49 Comm'l/Ind'l Lot w/ Bldg/Ofc/Lots 4759, 4761, 4768 & 8279-A Cebu S Road, Basak, Pardo / LA - 6,210 *Min Bid - P36,952,000*

50 Lots 7624-C-1-B & 7624-C-3-Colon St, Pahina Central, Sambag, Cebu City LA-660.70/TFA-2,797 *Min Bid - P53,203,500*

DAVAO CITY

51 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-6-A-2-B Laurel Ave/LA 537 *Min Bid - P5,065,000*

52 Lot/ L519-A-2-A-5-D, JP Laurel Ave/ LA 600 *Min Bid - P5,660,000*

CAGAYAN DE ORO CITY

53 Lots w/ Bldg/ Lots 1138-B & 1148-A-2, J Pacana, Puntod, Port Area / TLA - 587 *Min Bid - P4,000,000*

MISAMIS ORIENTAL

54 Ind'l Lot w/oil mill & ofc bldgs/Old Nat'l H-way Luz Banzon, Jasaan TLA-5,464 / TFA-1,589 *Min Bid - P9,572,000*

Unionbank may, at anytime, withdraw any of the properties listed above prior to auction. All properties for sale are on an "AS IS WHERE IS" basis.

HOUSE & LOT

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QUEZON CITY

960m² #5 Manhattan Cubao 4 Res/Factory T531-7219/89

BNEW 4BR4TB 2CG
POOL GARD MINDANAO P3.1 Gardn Buhos nr CTHALL P4.7 371-3996• 0917-7957850 dbo

★St. Ignatius Vill,cor lot 6br 4tb P14M 09192221766

MARIVELES 3STY W/ TERACE SURIGAO 4BR 600 SQM D' BUYER 7251096 • 6342079

HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

XAVIERVILLE AVE
Lot Area 1,017 sqm
Beautiful House
With pool
3-car garage
Contact
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Or landline
896-0043
(leave message)

RUSH! P1.6M DBO Sn PEDRO 7 SUBD nr Channel 5 NOVA
LA144 FA60 2BR w/grge
272-9765•0918-9396822

Sct. Castor nr Morato 3br3tb 2cg 3.5M 6873372/09178102903

NEW MLA 3BR 2CAR GRGE 5.5M 7157091/09184491555

NR GRACE CHRISTIAN COLL 3BR 1 DEN 2-6 CAR GRGE 7157091 / 0918-4491555

Xavierville 2 LA584M² 16M Ayala Hts. LA553M² 19M 0917-7541545 or 948-0760

HOUSE & LOT

QUEZON CITY

H&L FOR SALE OR LEASE
SMH QC NR BANAWE
FLOOD FREE & SECURED
CALL OWNER VIC
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(045) 322-35-10

RIZAL

AYALA-ANTIPOLO
P1.6-7M 2-5BR 10%DP P16T/mo LA150-250SQM nr. La Salle/ Assumption • 0918-9355737

Rush Sale Robinson Homes Antipolo LA140M² FA65M² Fely 6391573 • 0919-2769617

Vermont Park Antipolo 230m² 2sty 5BR w/ bathtub attic 2aircon L340 tel grge P5M 7801821 0919-5764056 welcome agents

BATANGAS

STA. TERESITA Batangas 3,000sqm along road P1 8M Cassie 09174790961 RUSH

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

COMML/RESDL

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Website : www.securitybank.com

PRIME PROPERTIES!!!

HOUSE & LOT

1. No. 15 Anahaw Street, Valle Verde IV, Pasig City LA: 911m²; FA:683m²; P35.0 Million
2. No. 1 Dahlia Cor. White Lily St., Araneta Village, Malabon City LA: 786 m²; FA: 555.7m²; P12.0 Million
3. No. 82 Violeta Subdivision, Bo. Tabang, Guiguinto, Bulacan LA: 240m²; FA: 170 m²; P 1.7 Million
4. No. 163 Schultz Street, Brgy. San Pedro, Alaminos, Laguna LA:602 m²; FA: 134 m²; P1.5 Million
5. No. 157 Country Drive Street, Country Homes Subdivision, Bo. Soro-Soro, Biñan, Laguna LA: 240m²; FA: 210 m²; P1.8 Million

*ALL PRICE ARE NEGOTIABLE & SUBJECT TO CHANGE W/O PRIOR NOTICE

FAST APPROVAL & EASY TERMS!!!

VACANT RESD'L. LOTS

1. L13, Blk. 1, Phoenix St., Villa Orion Subd., Fairview, Quezon City LA: 300.4 m²; P 2.5 Million
2. Lot 6, Blk. 3, Boston St., Brookside Hills Subd., San Isidro, Cainta, Rizal LA: 295 m²; P1.1 Million
3. L4, B14, Road 12, Kingston St., Vista Real Classica, Matandang Balara, Quezon City LA: 370 m²; P2.4 Million
4. Lot 6, Blk. 3-E, Orange St., Ruby Park, Victoria Homes, Tunasan, Muntinlupa LA: 319 m²; P957,000.00
5. Lot 12, Blk. 21, Road Lot 9-A, Village East Executive Homes, Bo. San Isidro, Angono, Rizal LA: 400 m²; P600,000.00

*ALL OFFERS ARE SUBJECT TO MANAGEMENT APPROVAL

DIRECT BUYERS & BROKERS ARE WELCOME!!!

COMM'L. BLDG./ LOTS

1. Vacant Comm'l. Lot Gov. Ferrer Ave., Brgy. Tejero, Rosario, Cavite LA:1,100 m²; P16.5 Million
2. Single-storey comm'l. bldg. cor. Roxas Ave. & Calle Primero De Mayo, Roxas City LA:353m²; FA:165.20 m²; P8.1Million
3. Vacant Comm'l. Lot Lot B, Km. 5, Pico, La Trinidad, Benguet LA:652 m²; P11.8 Million
4. Two-storey comm'l. bldg. along Tinio St., Poblacion, Gapan, Nueva Ecija LA:313m²; TFA:440.77m²; P11.5Million
5. Three-storey comm'l. bldg. Aguinaldo Hi-way cor. Palico St., Imus, Cavite LA:882m²; TFA:631.96m²; P17.1 Million

* SALE IS ON AS-IS-WHERE-IS BASIS

Birmingham
SUNRISE
San Mateo, Rizal
50m² up
nr Quezon City
2BR 1TB w/carport
P950T - up

HOMES
M.L. Quezon Ext.
Antipolo City
Two-storey Town house
P1.05M - up

PLACE
Brookside Hills,
Cainta, Rizal
Hse & Lot, 2 sty Twnhse
2BR, 2TB with carport
P1.5M - up

PANORAMA HILLS
Nr SSS, Antipolo
Lots Overlooking
Metro Manila
Only 20% DP Bal. 5 yrs.

HOMEOWNERS
DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
656-59-07
655-01-34
371-91-80
722-08-21
913-92-86
932-75-77

LOT

PROVINCIAL

Occidental Mindoro
100has property in Lawaan, Abra de Ilog, Occ Mindoro nr Puerto Galera w/ beach-front suitable 4 resort/ranch/ agri 4 only
P250,000 per hectare
Call Nick 921-5718

CAVITE

"Fairway Views Estates" LA120 FA103 New 3BR 2bath home w/view of Orchard 12th Fairway complete w/curtains, carport, security wall, 2A/C, central hot water, tile & wood flooring throughout, gas stove, 2 large outdoor decks, complete & ready to move move in. Expat owner relocating. RUSH SALE P1 8M (neg.) call 0918-9260981

LA MEDITERRANEA 2Stry 3Bdrm 1T&B LA110m² FA80m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

CONDO/TWNHSE

MANILA

Manila Condo P15T/mo.
Ready for occupancy with beautifully landscaped gardens & very near Mkt & Ortigas CBDs, also near SM Centerpoint, St. Lourdes Hospital & Don Bosco School
716 7039 / 44

HOUSE & LOT

LAGUNA

ADELINA 1 3Bdrms LA183m² P1.7M Vic 8903461 loc. 27

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1.6M C5 Nr The Fort
12T/mo. or 3Yrs No Int. or 10% D.P. LIPAT AGAD 3-5BR 15min Fr Mktl 0917-8169849

Bel Air Soho, 8-10T/mo Liza M/0920 7578922

Own Ayala Land's 1st-class Projects:

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Golf Comm. beside Ayala Hts. LA500sqm @18T-20T/sqm

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RFO luxury Condo, 5yrs no Int Up to 20% discount!

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Pre-selling condo Near Greenbelt & Glorietta "No D.P." option available

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MANILA

LEON GUINTO
NEAR LA SALLE
Bnew/3Sty/3BR/3TB/grge
P3 460M 8903461 loc 34

Nr UST P3.6M 136FA 6463731

CONDO/TWNHSE

PASIG

Ortigas Condo
Live in style & total comfort!
Only P12.5T/mo.
Walking distance to the Outlet Yard, Price Smart & Ever Gotesco
With hi-end amenities -- s pool, clubhouse with music lounge, dining area & game room.
656 1882 / 1706

MANILA

Taft Avenue Near La Salle 1.4M FF 1BR 0919-6781363

MANDALUYONG

1-2BR 0% Interest 30mos Near Ortigas / Megamall Edsa Call 0917-5176003

PARANAQUE

•PALM GROVE P4.6M 3BR RFO Japan St B Living 26% Off Cash
•BELLA VILLA P6.2M 3BR RFO Merville w/Amenities 41%Off Rent 2 Own T0916-8594925

PASIG

PASIG 2BR P2.7M 9126833

QUEZON CITY

2/3BR 2TB w/carport very nr Mindanao&Congressional Ave.4266965-66 Minnie P2.7M

2BR 2TB w/grge Loyola Hts P1.4M neg 0917-8924052

3BR 2TB w/ carport Capitol Estate Commonwealth 4266965-66 Minnie P3.2M

Cubao P1.4M 10%DP 9132224

Eastwood City Libis 1-3 BR Studio Call 0917-5218338

Greenhills Garden Sqr Boni Serrano Ave. QC 2.2M 56sqm 0918-9341429

Loyola Grandvilla Thse 2BR La Vista 926-8228 • 657-8241

Nr Ateneo 1.8M 80m² 3BR 3TB Pkg Slot 09196781363

RESD'L CONDO IN EASTWOOD CITY LIBIS 0917-5218338

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

CONDO/TWNHSE

TAGUIG

Spanish designed condo P10.7T/mo.
An exclusive community in the booming city of Taguig
Very secured and stylish, located near the International School Market Market & The Fort, with easy access to C5
643 5104 / 641 6500

RIZAL

Antipolo 5mins from Sta. Lucia Mall 2BR w/carport 4266965-66 Minnie P1.7M

SAN JUAN

BRAND NEW T/H San Juan 3BR P5.8M 0916-5923213

LE GRAN GHILLS 1BR/2BR Nice View •809-1322/26•

NEAR ICA & XAVIER
2/3BR 1/2GRGE 2.5M-7M
ONLY 7157091/09184491555

OTHER AREAS

TAGAYTAY COUNTRY VILLAS
SERVICED VACATION RESIDENCES
P 1.6 Million 15 yrs to pay
VISIT OUR SHOWROOM AT
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813-3193;
813-3690
James-635-0128
Ruby-633-6190
Tessa-633-6191

APARTMENT

QUEZON CITY

Cubao 6drs Inc/mo 50T 6M 11drs 95T/mo 12M 9982547

LOT

Rush Sale Assumption Antipolo 553sqm 9211331

KALOOCAN

RAINBOW VILLAGE 5 LA216m² P3,703/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 25

MALABON

1413sqm corner T8437027 For warehouse 09189258470

MANILA

Tondo Mla Lot For Sale w/5 Doors Old Apt. 6972863-Res 6339060-Off Yolly 09189055031

MARIKINA

MONTEVISTA 600M² P12T/M² 09165923213 / 7250580

MUNTINLUPA

SOUTH GREENHTS VILL 300m² fenced P3.833/m² Vic Gigie 8903461 loc 25/27

PARANAQUE

Southbay Pque 537sqm 9,500/sqm • 0918-9002104

PASIG

METROVILLE SUBD LA333m² P4,054/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

QUEZON CITY

ACROPOLIS 300;414SQM Rush P9M only 6337601-03

MINDANAO AVE 500m²
9262953

NR LITEX Rd. 2.5 Hectares P300/sqm call 9330092

CORINTHIAN GARDEN
LA740m² @ P28T ONLY
7157091 / 09184491555

RIZAL

Antipolo City Ideal for Factory & Resd'l 6972863-Res 6339060 Off Yolly 09189055031

good 4 gas station Antipolo Sumulong 6391694 0917-8102803

REAL ESTATE FOR SALE

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

FOR SALE

Fishpond for sale covering 133.2584 hectares with a fishpond lease agreement no. 425 located at Barrio Salhag, Rosario, Northern Samar, ask for details from:

Ms. Sally F. Bañga
Davao City
Tel. No. (085) 221-1140

Ms. Arlynn A. Torres
Makati City
Tel. No. (02) 817-0784/893-0487

LOT

RIZAL

Greenridge Exec Vil Binangonan 225m² @ 3.800/m² 287-9418, 0918-9021778 Rene

SAN JUAN

★Lot w/40K monthly income LA138 P35/m² 0916-3219067

OTHER AREAS

FLORIDA USA Residential Lot 900sqm $12T Cash Call 0918-9414013

KINGSVILLE SUBD LA 397M² P4,250/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

RANCHO VISTA SUBD 613/m² P2,284/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

RIDGEMONT EXEC VIL Cainta 151sqm 4,500/sqm Tel 8982358 Miles 4850241

TOWN & COUNTRY HILLS LA240sqm P3,125/sqm Vic 8903461 Loc. 27

OTHER PROVINCIAL

Cabanatuan City 4,553m² Nr. SM&Lakewood City H-Way 2.7M Neg. 0919-5985842 DBO

Tagaytay Hts. 2Lots 4,500/sqm • 0918-9002104

CAVITE

200 & 100 sqm. PRG. 12 Molino3,Bacoor 046-4772588

SALINAS BACOOR CAVITE 2 lots 110sqm/lot 2800/m² Tel 8982358 Miles 4850241

THE ORCHARD (Dasmarinas Cavite) Area. 783sqm P4,000/sqm • 641-0104

LAGUNA

Laguna Farm 4.3Hec P600/sqm Neg. 0917-8447670

MILLWOOD SUBD LA100m² P3.500/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

SOUTH PEAK P5,000/m² LA240m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

MEMORIAL LOT

ETERNAL MEM GARDEN LOT CELL 0919-3254727 JUN

FOREST LAWN
Q.C. MEMORIAL LOTS
Swap/Corp Discount Ok
830-0048/49, 830-0040

FARM/FISHPEN/RAWLANDS

★**ZAMBALES** Mango Farm 7,9,10,30,68has 09192221766

ZAMBALES alg hway 3M 50+mango titled 09192221766

PILILLA, RIZAL Eucalyptus Hardwood Tree Farm 8.5 ha. w/ Flowing Springs in hills at back Villa Lorenza Km 59 Call 9215770 • 0917-5305555

SAN MIGUEL LA4000m² P250/m Vic 8903461 loc 27

TAAL Bings 200m from Diversion Rd LA6794m² P186/m² Vic 8903461 loc. 27

★**SUBIC** back of CT Hall 46has.@200/m² 0919221766

FACTORY/WHSE

BRAND NEW LAGUNA WHSE Reasonable Rate 550 750. 1 000+ 2,420sqm 671-0793 / 0815

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL

QUEZON CITY

BALARA along road 9218376

REAL ESTATE FOR RENT

COMMERCIAL/RESIDENTIAL

BAGUIO

Transients/Live-In Seminars Kennon RD 4422020

HOUSE

KALOOCAN

2Sty 2BR 5.5 4Ave 8906374

MAKATI

HOUSE 4BR NR FORT GLOBAL CT TEL. 882-1752 882-5836

PARANAQUE

3BR BUNG 240sqm LOT W/H2O PUMP GRGE 2TB NR SCH BUSLINE 28 E. VITAL 7132467 4716418 12T

House 4BR Marcelo 12T Call 8234473 Mrs.Romero

QUEZON CITY

4BR 2TB nr FEU 9318896

Loyola Hts 2sty 3BR3TB 2tel 10car grge garden 9208858

NorthFrview 3br P7T 9260398

Visayas Ave. Pro.6 3BR single detach 0916-5923213

SAN JUAN

GREENHILLS P40T/MO. FA-250SQM 3BR 3TB MAIDS, GARAGE UNFURN 723-0847 PG-9001441122968

CAVITE

CITTA ITALIA IMUS CAV. 3Rms. 2TB P8T 09174790961

CONDO/TWNHSE

MAKATI

1BR 2BR Furn Nice 8966665

BNEW MKTI CONDO-11K
OXFORD SUITES FF
ELEGANT W/ NICE VIEW
10MINS.FR.ROCKWELL
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37-140 sqm 11K-55K
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MANILA

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MANDALUYONG

Pioneer Hilands Studio Vida@8431626 No Agents

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BAYVIEW TOWER ROXAS BLVD 1BR FURN/TEL8547208

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2 B/B with garage Renaissance 3000 Pasig 5320467

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PROJ4 3STY 4BR 2TB P16T 9512413 / 09178920765

SAN JUAN

Ghills Stu P11T FF 929-9835

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APT MKTI P7T 8951449

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3BR nr UST 09198198329

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Isuzu Forward 1979 T695-0037

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Subaru Leg '98 4wd AT 1st Own 300T 927-0148

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95 Corolla GLI P240T 9311703/09175322808 Jimy

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3Btle 0%DP 0917-3908413

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2% w/o Taking Car 7262780

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GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

BUY/SELL

GENERAL ITEMS FOR SALE

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MGMT. STAFF 09208062187 Bea

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OFC / MKTG STAFF
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Ofc Staff 09206274118 - Sam

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QTY SURVEYOR
CE grad w/ 5yrs experience in const
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direct hire 9614634 PEARL

PUBLIC NOTICES

ANNOUNCEMENT

ANNOUNCEMENT
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FALUN DAFA MEDITATION Wrkshp & Photo Exhbt 1:30PM May 3 Phil Coop Center 90 Balete Dr Ext Cor E. Rodrgz QC FREE! 0919-4047829

PERSONAL

NOVENA TO THE MOST SACRED HEART OF JESUS AND SAINT JUDE
MAY THE SACRED HEART OF JESUS BE ADORED GLORIFIED LOVED AND PRESERVED THRU-OUT THE WORLD NOW AND FOREVER. SACRED HEART OF JESUS HAVE MERCY ON US. ST. JUDE WORKERS OF MIRACLES PRAY FOR US. ST. JUDE HELPER OF THE HOPELESS PRAY FOR US. AMEN
SAY THIS PRAYER 9 TIMES A DAY BY THE 9TH DAY YOUR PRAYER WILL BE ANSWERED. IT HAS NEVER BEEN KNOWN TO FAIL. PUBLICATION MUST BE PROMISED.

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES

Earn & Travel 0917-8458644

HERMOGENES RODRIGUEZ Y REYES ESTATE
Titulo de Propiedad de Terrenos Royal Decree 01-4 Protocol
Ano 1828-1881-1891-1894

DEED OF DONATION

KNOW ALL MEN BY THESE PRESENTS:

This DEED OF DONATION, made and executed this 15th day of January, 2003 at Pasig City Metro Manila, by and between:

JAIME M. ROBLES, of legal age, married, Filipino and with postal address at A. Leongson St. San Roque, Navotas, Metro Manila, in his capacity as REGULAR COURT ADMINISTRATOR of the Estate of Don Hermogenes Rodriguez Y Reyes, under Letter of Administration, dated December 22, 1994, issued by Judge Jose S. Peñas, Jr. of Branch 34, RTC, Iriga City and confirmed under Certificate of Finality, dated January 31, 1995, issued by the same Judge, hereinafter referred as DONOR;

And

HERMOGENES RODRIGUEZ ESTATE VALLEY VIEW SUBD. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION INC., an entity duly organized and existing under and by virtue of the laws of the Republic of the Philippines and registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), as non-stock, non-profit and non-governmental organization, under Certificate of Registration No. A200203926, issued on March 7, 2002, represented by ROBERT B. RIVAS, likewise of legal age, single Filipino and with postal address at Valley View Subd., Brgy. Guitod Malaya, San Mateo Rizal, in his capacity as President of said association, hereinafter referred as DONEE,

WITNESSETH: That;

WHEREAS, the DONOR is the declared "Heir" and next of kin of decedent Don Hermogenes Rodriguez Y Reyes, as per Order of the court of Iriga City, 5th Judicial Region, Branch 34, dated December 15, 1994 and by virtue of the Certificate of Finality dated January 31, 1995 issued by the same Judge, the DONOR being the only keeper/possessor of TITULO DE PROPIEDAD DE TERRENOS, ROYAL DECREE 01-4, PROTOCOL of 1828, 1881, 1891, 1894, expediente No 406-409, published in the Gazeta de Manila on 15th day of November, 1894 page No. 756, registered under the TORRENS SYSTEM of Land Registration (ACT 496), as OCT No. 12022 on 9th day of December, 1905, Court Proceeding No. 709, with Decree of Registration No. 659, under Survey Plan PSU-2031, being an absolute proof of ownership of the vast tract of land encompassed in aforesaid Title, having undergone Act 496, having complied with PD No. 892 and PD 1529, and embodied under PD 1143, is considered the real, lawful, legal and rightful owner of the property situated in the Brgy. Guitod Malaya, San Mateo Rizal and the adjacent area consisting of TWO HUNDRED EIGHTY THOUSAND (280,000) Square Meters, more or less, and more particularly described as follows:

DESCRIPTION AND SKETCH OF THE PROPERTY

TL from BLLM Municipality of San Mateo Rizal

1-2	S	64-17	E	354	15-16	N	21-38	E	34 73
2-3	S	6-09	W	40 58	16-17	N	84-05	E	11 53
3-4	S	6-00	W	104 90	17-18	N	10-50	E	13 52
4-5	N	77-15	W	102 32	18-19	N	04-04	E	20 05
5-6	N	73-25	W	252.56	19-20	N	4-55	E	69 18
6-7	N	1-02	E	1.11	20-21	N	74-20	W	3 41
7-8	N	78-53	W	89 82	21-22	N	74-20	W	54 00
8-9	S	88-06	W	37 72	22-23	N	26-27	E	212 63
9-10	S	66-07	W	53 10	23-24	S	43-00	E	50 00
10-11	N	82-33	W	9 25	24-25	S	48-08	E	45 00
11-12	N	10-46	E	5 38	25-26	S	69-41	E	328
12-13	N	79-13	W	388 65	26-27	S	34-53	E	20.5
13-14	N	10-46	E	128.12					
14-15	N	54 04	E	15 03	280,000 Sq. Mts.				

WHEREAS, the DONEE is an association duly registered with the SEC, with members who belong to the low income group and landless citizens of this Republic, and who are desirous to possess through legal means the lot where their homes are respectively located and to be, ultimately the owner thereof;

That, FOR AN IN CONSIDERATION of the trust, fidelity, help and love and affection shown upon the DONOR by the DONEE and such an act of gratitude and liberality on his part, the DONOR hereby voluntarily GIVES, TRANSFER, DONATES and CONVEYS by way of donation unto the DONEE, the above-described property, together with all the improvements found thereon, free from all liens and encumbrances and charges of whatever kind, subject to the following conditions,

1. That the subject property of this donation shall be for the sole benefit of the members of the association and shall not be alienated, transferred, assigned, mortgaged or in means disposed without the written consent of the Board of Trustees of said association
2. That the members of the above-name association, through its Board of Trustees, shall should all expenses relative to the proper documentation, re-surveys, payment of real estate taxes due, attorney's fees, transfer expenses, etc. as the case may arise thereto.
3. That the Board of Trustees shall determine the assessment of each member-donee for the above-mentioned expenditures
4. That the DONOR affirms that this donation is not made with intent to defraud his creditors or that of the estate and that he has sufficient funds and properties reserved for himself or that of the estate and for obligations of the estate as well
5. That the Certificate of Occupancy issued for the members of the association shall be initiated by Robert B. Rivas and signed by the administrator, Don Jaime M. Robles; that previous certificate of occupancy issued prior to the date of this Deed of Donation shall be cancelled and considered null and void and shall be surrendered to the association for a re-issuance of a new Certificate of Occupancy duly initiated by said Robert B. Rivas and signed by Don Jaime M. Robles.

THAT, the DONEE-ASSOCIATION, represented by its president Robert B. Rivas, accepted and receives this donation made in their favor by the DONOR, and hereby manifests his gratefulness and appreciation for and in behalf of the members of the DONEE-ASSOCIATION, for the DONOR'S-ADMINISTRATOR'S generosity and liberality

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, both parties are hereunder affixed their signature this 15th day of January, 2003 at Pasig City, Philippines.

(Sgd.) ROBERT B. RIVAS
President
HERMOGENES RODRIGUEZ ESTATE
Valley View Subd. Neighborhood Ass'n., Inc.

(Sgd.) JAIME M. ROBLES
Judicial Court Administrator
HERMOGENES RODRIGUEZ ESTATE

Signed in the Presence of:

(Sgd.) PACITA M. OSORIO

(Sgd.) ALEXANDER G. ACOPIO

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES)
PASIG CITY) SS.

Before me, a Notary Public for Pasig City, this 15 day of January, 2003, personally appeared JAIME M. ROBLES with CTC No. 12100988 issued at Navotas, Metro Manila, on January 15, 2003 and ROBERT B. RIVAS with CTC No. 19705641 issued at San Mateo Rizal on January 13, 2003 known to me and to me known to be the same persons who executed the foregoing instrument and they acknowledged to me that the same is of their free and voluntary act and deed.

That this is a three (3) paged document including this page on which this acknowledgement is written

Witness my hand and seal on the date above-written

(Sgd.) LUCILA M. LAWAS-YUTOK
NOTARY PUBLIC
Until December 31, 2003
IBP No. 569092
PTR No. 1378675

Doc. No. 245
Page No. 49
Book No. 344
Series of 2003
(PDI - Apr. 27, 2003)

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Republic of the Philippines
Department of Health
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
Bldg. No. 1, San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila 1003
Tel. Nos. 743-8301 locals 1125, 1132; Fax (632) 743-1829; 743-1786;
Direct 711-9502, 711-9503
e-mail address: osec@doh.gov.ph

Request for Quotations

Philippines
Early Childhood Development Project
Supply and Delivery of Various Drugs
RFQ No. ADB-ECD-03-DOH-001

1. The Government of the Philippines has received loans from the Asian Development Bank (ADB) toward the cost of the Early Childhood Development Project and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of these loans to payment under the contract for which this Invitation for Bids is issued.
2. The Department of Health now requests price quotations for the supply and delivery of the following drugs:

Item No.	Description	Quantity	Unit
1	Ferrous Sulfate Drops	850,000	Bottles
2	Ferrous Sulfate Syrup	569,010	Bottles
3	Albendazole	1,189,800	Tablets

3. International Shopping procedures will be conducted in accordance with ADB's procurement guidelines.
4. Interested eligible bidders may obtain further information and inspect the bidding documents at the Procurement and Logistics Service (PLS), Building 26 Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila from **April 23 to May 20, 2003** between 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.
5. A complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by any interested eligible bidder at the said address upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS (P5,000.00) or ONE HUNDRED FIFTY US DOLLARS (US$150.00), including mail fee for foreign suppliers. The method of payment may be cash or bank draft. If payment is in form of bank draft, the check should be to the account of the Department of Health. Information including names of potential bidders and contact persons, telephone and facsimile numbers, cable, e-mail and mailing address should be provided in the application to facilitate communications during the bidding process.
6. Quotations must be delivered at COBAC Office, Department of Health, Building 3, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila on or before 9:00 a.m. on **21 May 2003.**
7. Quotations must be accompanied by a Bid Security of not less than two (2%) percent of the total Bid Price in the currency of the quotation or another freely convertible currency. Late quotations shall be rejected. Quotations will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend on **21 May 2003** at 9:00 a.m. at the COBAC Office, Department of Health, San Lazaro Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.
8. Prior to opening of quotations, a pre-bid conference will also be held at the COBAC Office at 9:00 a.m. on **7 May 2003.**
9. The Department of Health will not be responsible for any cost or expenses incurred by Bidders in connection with the preparation or delivery of quotations.
10. In the comparison of quotations, ADB's Domestic Preference Scheme will be applied in accordance with the provisions stipulated in the Instruction to Bidders.
11. The DOH reserves the right to accept or reject any quotation, and to annul the bidding process and reject all quotations at any time prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders and to waive any minor defects or infirmities therein and to accept such quotation as may be considered most advantageous to the government.

(Sgd.) **ZENAIDA O. LUDOVICE, MD, MPH, CESO II**
Assistant Secretary and Chairperson
Central Office Bids & Awards Committee

(PDI–April 20 & 27, 2003)

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue, Pasig City, Philippines

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim
Office of the Undersecretary

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Education through the Health and Nutrition Center is inviting all suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for 1,031,000 tables of Albendazole (generic, 400mg/tab) with a budget of P6,062,280.00

All interested suppliers may avail of the bidding documents upon submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) starting **April 28 - May 12, 2003** at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A, Mabini Bldg., DepEd Complex, Pasig City or visit the DepEd Website at http://www.deped.gov.ph.

A pre-bid conference will be held on **May 12, 2003**, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. I, DepEd Complex, Pasig City. The deadline for the submission and opening of bids shall be on **May 26, 2003** at the same time and place mentioned above.

DepEd-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids. DepEd-BAC further reserves the right to declare a failure of bid, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary
Chairman, DepEd-BAC

(PDI – April 27 & May 4, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY
San Lazaro Compound, Rizal Avenue, Sta. Cruz, Manila

CENTRAL OFFICE BIDS AND AWARD COMMITTEE (COBAC)

INVITATION TO PREQUALIFY / ELIGIBILITY SCREENING AND TO BID

The Department of Health thru the Central Office and Awards Committee (COBAC) is inviting bids from accredited contractors of Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) with minimum license category "B" and registration of "Medium A" for Building and Industrial Plant for the project Repair/ Renovation of DOH Convention Hall, DOH Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The dates to be followed are:

1. Submission of Letter of Intent, PCAB License and Registration (Bring original copies of Contractor's License)	May 5 & 6, 2003
2. Submission of dully accomplished Eligibility documents	May 12, 2003
3. Posting of eligible contractors	May 19, 2003
4. Issuance of Bid/Tender Documents	May 22 & 23, 2003
5. Pre-Bid Conference	2:00 P.M. May 30, 2003
6. Submission of Bids (Deadline)	2:00 P.M. June 16, 2003
7. Opening of Bids	2:00 P.M. June 16, 2003

All of the above activities shall be held at the Office of the COBAC Chairman, Building No. 3, DOH Compound, Sta. Cruz, Manila.

The complete set of bid documents may be purchased by the interested eligible bidders upon payment of a non-refundable fee of FIVE THOUSAND PESOS ONLY (P5,000.00).

DOH-COBAC reserve the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any required formality and award the contract to any bidder whose proposal as evaluated by DOH-COBAC is the most advantageous to the Government. DOH-COBAC assumes no obligation to compensate or indemnify the bidders for any expenses or loss that may be incurred in the preparation of bids, nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

The Approved Budget Cost will be announced during the pre-bid conference.

(Sgd.) **USEC. ALEXANDER A. PADILLA**
COBAC Chairperson

(PDI April 27 & May 4 2003)

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NATIONAL FOOD AUTHORITY
Quezon City
Tel. No.: (632) 712-3341 TO 54
Fax No.: (632) 712-1110

INVITATION TO BID

The National Food Authority (NFA) wishes to announce that it will be holding a competitive bidding among all interested foreign rice suppliers and rice suppliers with foreign principals for the supply of MINIMUM ONE HUNDRED THIRTY SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (137,500) MT, Long Grain White Rice with an appropriated budget of US Dollars 28.5 Million, 15% brokens (Well-Milled) and 25% brokens (Reasonably Well Milled), of Vietnam, China and Thailand origin only packed in 50 kg net capacity, polypropylene bag.

All interested rice suppliers are required to submit price offers in US$/MT. CFR, FO Cash L/C basis, 180 days usance and 360 days usance L/C, 1 safe port, 1-2 safe berths for all the specifications above-mentioned with arrival periods as follows. Otherwise, bids shall be considered non-responsive.

ARRIVAL PERIOD	VOLUME TO BE OFFERED (MT) % OF MAX. VOL. TO BE AWARDED
MAY/JUNE 2003	AT LEAST 50%
JULY 2003	BALANCE

Volume to be awarded per supplier per month of arrival shall be at BUYER's option but in no case shall aggregate volume of award exceed 137,500 MT for government suppliers with track record of supplying rice to the NFA within the last two years (2001 and 2002) and 25,000 MT for other suppliers with no track record with the NFA within the last two years (2001 and 2002). The above stipulated maximum volume maybe increased depending on the actual quantity to be procured by NFA. Said volume will however be announced no later than the pre-bidding schedule.

Vessels to be utilized should have a maximum load capacity of 15,000 MT.

All bidders are required to post a bid bond equivalent to 15% of the value of the offered quantity in the form of Cashier's/Manager's Check issued by a reputable bank located in Metro Manila or stand-by irrevocable L/C callable on demand.

Winning bidders are required to submit a performance bond equivalent to 15% of the value of the awarded quantity within three (3) banking days after receipt of the Notice of Award in the form of Cashier's/Manager's Check issued by a reputable bank located in Metro Manila or stand-by irrevocable L/C callable on demand. Bid bond can be converted to Performance Bond.

Certificate of registration issued by the Bid and Awards Committee (BAC) is required from all prospective bidders. List of registration and eligibility requirements maybe secured with the BAC - Secretariat, 5th Flr., Matimyas Bldg., National Food Authority, Quezon City starting **April 28, 2003**. Schedule of pre-bidding and bidding conferences shall be on **May 12 and 15, 2003**, 2:00 p.m., respectively at the NFA Penthouse Canteen. Opening of bids will start exactly at 2:00 p.m.

Suppliers who have been issued a Certificate of Registration (COR) for year 2003 by the NFA-BAC shall be eligible to join the bidding.

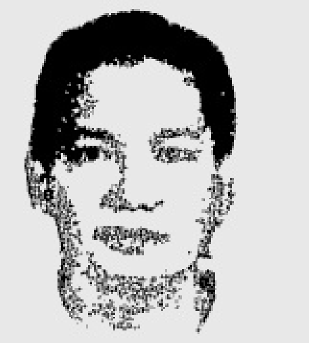
Terms of Reference and bid documents will be available starting **April 28, 2003** after payment of a non-refundable fee of PHP 5,000.00.

The National Food Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any required formalities or defects found therein and may accept bid/s most advantageous to the Agency.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ARTHUR C. YAP**
Administrator

(PDI - Apr 27 & May 4 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



A warrant of arrest was issued by the Regional Trial Court of Lemery, Batangas - Branch 5 against

EDGAR BAYOCA CABUSCABUS

whose picture appears above. Should you have any information regarding the whereabouts of Edgar Bayoca Cabuscabus, please contact Mr. Tony Aguirre thru cellphone number 0917-4721945 or (02) 8988000 loc. 2014.

A reward will be given for any information that will lead to his arrest.

REPUBLIKA NG PILIPINAS
REPUBLIC OF THE PHILIPPINES
KAGAWARAN NG EDUKASYON
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
DepEd Complex, Meralco Avenue
Pasig City, Philippines

Tanggapan ng Pangalawang Kalihim
Office of the Undersecretary

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Education through the Health and Nutrition Center is inviting all suppliers to apply for eligibility and to bid for **3,200,000 packs of Powdered Full Cream Milk** with a budget of P16,000,000.00.

All interested suppliers may avail of the bidding documents upon submission of a Letter of Intent and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Two Hundred Pesos (P200.00) starting **April 28-May 9, 2003** at the BAC Secretariat Office, Rm. 112-A, Mabini Bldg., DepEd Complex, Pasig City or visit the DepEd Website at *http://www.deped.gov.ph.*

A pre-bid conference will be held on May 9, 2003, 10:00 AM at Bulwagan ng Karunungan, Rizal Bldg. 1, DepEd Complex, Pasig City. The deadline for the submission and opening of bids shall be on **May 23, 2003** at the same time and place mentioned above.

DepEd-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids to waive deficiencies embodied therein without assuming any obligation whatsoever to offset expenses or losses the bidder may incur in the preparation of the bids. DepEd-BAC further reserves the right to declare a failure of bid, or not award the contract, and makes no assurance that a contract shall be entered into as a result of this invitation.

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary

(PDI–April 27 & May 4, 2003)

Republic of the Philippines
NATIONAL ELECTRIFICATION ADMINISTRATION
Office of the Management Team
Maharlika Highway, Diversion, San Leonardo Nueva Ecija
Telefax # (044) 486-3668

INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY & BID

NEA Management Team (NMT) invites CONTRACTORS to apply for pre-qualification and if subsequently found qualified to bid for the SUPPLY OF LABOR & MATERIALS intended for the ENERGIZATION of the following BARANGAYS.

	Single Phase (km)	Open Sec. (km)	Under built (km)
1. Barangay Langka, Palayan City, Nueva Ecija	3.185	0.850	1.100
2. Barangay Palale, Palayan City, Nueva Ecija	5.855	0.925	1.155

A complete set of BID DOCUMENTS may be purchased starting **April 30, 2003 up to May 07, 2003** upon submission of a written application and upon payment of a non-refundable fee of ONE THOUSAND (P1,000.00) PESOS from the PBAC Secretariat NMT, San Leonardo, Nueva Ecija.

The NMT reserves the right to reject any or all bids, without offering any reason, ban any bidder with unsatisfactory or derogatory track records and award the CONTRACT to any CONTRACTOR whose proposal as evaluated by the PBAC is most advantageous to NMT.

For additional inquiries, please call the PBAC Secretariat at Cellphone Nos. 0916-782-0356, 0917-566-4312 or 0916-586-1093.

(Sgd.) **ENGR. FRANK T. WY**
NMT-PBAC Chairman

(PDI – April 24 & 27, 2003)

PHILIPPINE HEART CENTER
East Avenue, Quezon City

The Philippine Heart Center, Division of Anesthesia is accepting applicants for Fellowship in Cardiovascular Anesthesia.

Applicants must be graduates of an accredited Anesthesia Residency Training Program. For inquiries contact OER Tel. **925-2401** local **3234-3236** or Anesthesia office local **2267-2268**.

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

The following persons are hereby notified of their overdue payments on their installments for the purchase of the following real estate properties, namely:

NAME	PROPERTY	PAYMENT(S) DUE
Felegunda Ascano	Neopolitan, PVII B178 L9 TCT# 37684	P 590,033.14
Ma. Dulce Arriola	Neopolitan, VIII B86 L25 TCT# 37468	1,633,572.72
Robert Ting/Lorena Angeles Serrano	Neopolitan, PVI B168 L102 TCT# 37540	1,247,807.07

The above-named-persons are hereby given a grace period of two (2) months from publication of this notice within which to pay the above mentioned sums to DBH Development Corporation at the 6th Floor, Renaissance Tower D, Meralco Ave., Pasig City. Failure to so pay the above amounts shall result in the cancellation of the Contracts to Sell by DBH Development Corporation.

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The Board of Directors, Staff &
Employees of

Manila Jockey Club Inc.

Express their sincerest condolences
to the family of

ATTY. ROBERTO R. REVERENTE

Executive Vice President
& Chief Operating Officer

*who peacefully joined his Creator
on April 23, 2003 at the age of 69.*

His bereaved wife **Cecilia**; son **Benito** and wife **Jennifer**, brothers & sisters **Benny** & **Tita**, **Chita** and **Oscar**, **Eddie** & **Derby**, and **Sonia**; brothers & sisters-in-law, and other relatives request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at the St. Alphonsus de Liguori Chapel, Magallanes Village, Makati City up to Tuesday morning, April 29, 2003.

Donations to the Missionary Sisters of Charity or Caritas Manila or Bahay Tulungan will be appreciated instead of sending flowers.

---

*God indeed is my Savior, I am confident and unafraid,
my strength and my courage is the Lord;
With joy you will draw water at the fountain of salvation
and say on that day: Give Thanks to the Lord!*
Isaiah 12:2-3

Our Dearly Beloved

MANUEL TIU PENG

李顯輝

of City of San Pablo

*Peacefully joined our Risen Lord
on Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at the age of 88.*

Wife : **Wong Fung Chi**

Children and Children-in-Law : **Nenita (Kim Chu)** and **Jose Yu Cheung, (Chiquito) Tin Chee** and **Angelie Co**

Grandchildren and Grandchildren-in-Law : **Lily, Eric, Willy, Edwina** and **Richmond Ong, June** and **Josephine Co, Edison, Joseph** and **Arlene Chan, Elizabeth** and **Hizon Uy, Amparo** and **Francis Aswin, Evelyn, Ernesto** (†), **Arlene, Eric, Eugenio** and **Rachael Ong, Eisenhower, Edward, Edmund, Emerson** and **Aimee**

Great Grandchildren : **Jeffrey, Kevin, Jackie, Hans, Kelly Junine** and **Karl Matthew**

and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of his soul.

His body lies in state at the Resurrecion Chapel San Pablo Cathedral, City of San Pablo.

Interment will be at San Pablo Chinese Cemetery, City of San Pablo on Tuesday, April 29, 2003 after the 8:00 a.m. Mass at Resurrecion Chapel, San Pablo Cathedral.

MARICAR B. DUNTON

Peacefully joined her Creator on 26 April 2003 at the age of 37.

Her loving parents **Terry & Rene**: sister **Josephine**; brothers **Joselito** and **Romualdo, Jr. (Bodie)**; nephews **Vincent & Duane** & nieces **Karen, Jomarie, Kayla, Clarisse & Joelle Marie**: brother-in-law **Manolo**; sisters-in-law **Maricar & Virna**; **Auntie Mely** and other relatives request the readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at Nacional Memorial Homes (Chapel 3-D), G. Araneta Avenue, Q.C.

Interment will be on Wednesday, 30 April 2003 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at Himlayang Pilipino Memorial Park, Tandang Sora, Q.C.

We design
OBITUARIES
for free.

"...absent with the body to be present with the Lord" 2 Corinthians 5:8

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*"Precious in the sight of the Lord is
the death of his saints"*
Psalm 116:15

MANUELA REINOSO-UMANDAP

December 22, 1914 - April 25, 2003
of Puerto Princesa, Palawan

Joined her Creator and husband ***Enrique***
on Friday, April 25, 2003.

She will be lovingly remembered by her children **Sam & Pean, Abe & Grace Cantor, Dave & Susan, Joel & Fely, Pastor Gideon, Meinard & Leah Rivera, Noel & Rachel Tolentino**; grandchildren, great grandchildren, relatives and friends.

Her body lies in state at Sampaton Funeral Homes, Puerto Princesa City from Saturday until Tuesday and will be transferred to the Puerto Princesa Baptist Church on Wednesday.

Interment will follow on Saturday, May 3, 2003 at 3:30 p.m.

DEATH NOTICES

Kathleen B. Bermejo

*Joined her Creator on April 24, 2003
at the age of 80.*

Her cremated remains have been brought to Chapel L, Loyola Memorial Chapels, Guadalupe, Makati City.

Interment will be today, April 27, 2003 after the 5:00 p.m. Mass in Chapel L.

Dominador Labnao Labong

*Joined our Lord on
April 22, 2003 at the age of 72.*

His remains lie in state at the Don Bosco Chapel, Pasay Road, Makati City.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 29, 2003

Conrada Dionicio Garcia

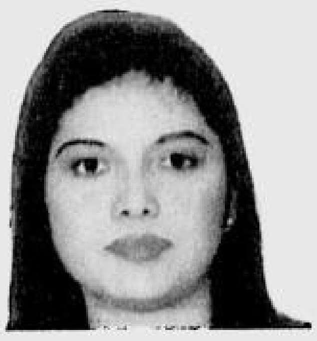
*Joined her Creator
on April 25, 2003.*

She lies in state at Capilla del Señor Sanctuario de San Antonio, Forbes Park, Makati.

Interment will be on Tuesday, April 29, 2003.

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



CHARITY BATION POCULAN

Please be informed that **Ms. CHARITY BATION POCULAN**, whose picture appears above, with last known address at 4838-B Valderama St., Makati City, is wanted for QUALIFIED THEFT and has a standing Warrant of Arrest issued by the Regional Trial Court of Makati Branch 59 in connection with Criminal Case No. 02-1977.

A substantial amount will be given to anyone who shall provide Ms. Annie Leopando at Tel. No. 810-0266 or 840-2520 the present whereabouts of Charity B. Poculan who was also issued a Hold Departure Order (HDO) by the Honorable Court, Br. 59. RTC, Makati.

(PDI – April 27, 2003)

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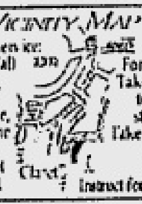
When
May 1, 2 & 3, 2003
(Thurs, Fri & Saturday)
9 am to 5pm

Where
Claret School of Quezon City
(Audio Visual Room)

VICINITY MAP



With your own service: From QC City Hall turn Right along Kalayaan Ave., On your Left side, Look for Unilane Foodmart then, turn Left Straight to Claret School

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Final Reservation: April 29, 2003

CULTURAL CENTER OF THE PHILIPPINES
wishes to announce its
INVITATION TO PRE-QUALIFY & BID
on the following

1. 5-10 years lease of the Folk Arts Theater (10,000 sq.m.), CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City
2. 5 years lease of Trellis Area- West (292 sq.m.) at the Liwasang ASEAN, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City
3. 5 years lease of Trellis Area- East (292 sq.m.) at the Liwasang ASEAN, CCP Complex, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City.

You may secure checklist of requirements from Mr. Ed Duque, Office of the Vice President, Cultural Center of the Philippines, CCP Complex, Roxas Blvd., Pasay City Tel. Nos. 832-3680 or 832-1125 loc. 1101. Deadline for inquiry is on Tuesday, May 6, 2003 until 5:00 p.m

The CCP reserves the right to reject any or all bids or any part thereof without offering any reason, waive any defects contained therein and accept the offer most advantageous to the government, and the right to confiscate the bid bond and/or pursue appropriate legal action should the winning bidder refuse to accept the award.

Further, the CCP assumes no obligation whatsoever to compensate or indemnify the bidder for any expense or loss that they may incur in participating to the undertaking nor does it guarantee that an award will be made.

(Sgd.) SID HILDAWA
Chairman, CCPBAC

(PDI – Apr. 25 & 27, 2003)

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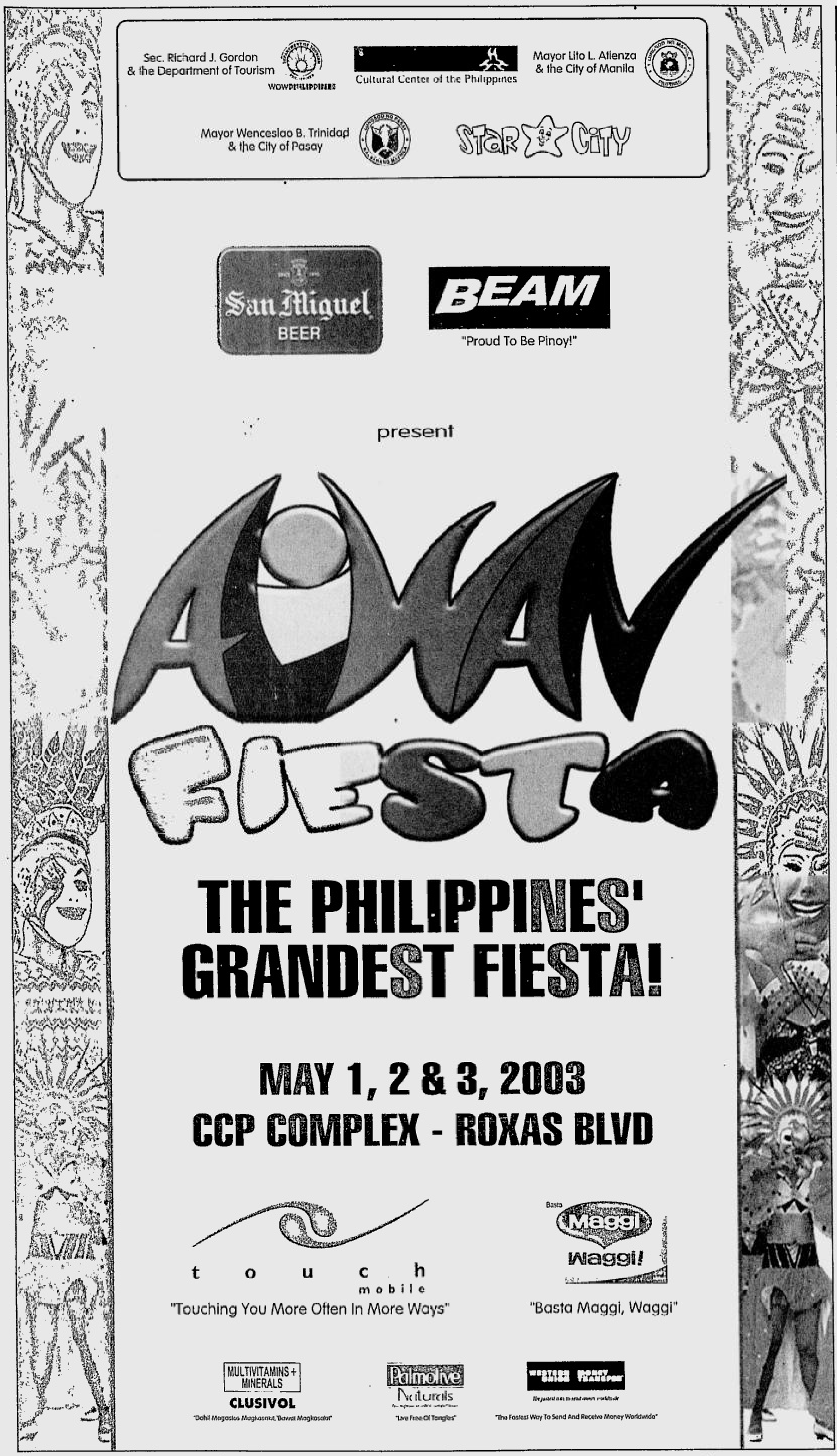

Sec. Richard J. Gordon & the Department of Tourism

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Cultural Center of the Philippines

Mayor Lito L. Atienza & the City of Manila

Mayor Wenceslao B. Trinidad & the City of Pasay

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MAY 1, 2 & 3, 2003

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"Basta Maggi, Waggi"

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dti

DTI-BIDS and AWARDS COMMITTEE

INVITATION FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Department of Trade Industry - Bids and Awards Committee hereby invites SERVICE CORPORATIONS to bid for the Janitorial and Allied Services requirement of the DTI and its attached agencies. The estimated budget for this is **FIFTEEN MILLION SEVEN HUNDRED SEVENTY FOUR THOUSAND PESOS (Php 15,774,000.00)** for one year.

Only contractors duly registered as a Corporation with the Securities and Exchange Commission and with at least P5 Million capitalization may be allowed to participate in the eligibility screening.

Instructions to bidders and bid documents maybe obtained from May 5-9, 2003 upon payment of a non-refundable amount of **TWO THOUSAND PESOS (Php 2,000.00)** only from **MR. CLAUDIO H. AVERILLA** at the BAC Secretariat, Ground Floor, Trade and Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

Submission of eligibility documents - May 12-17, 2003 at same address.

A pre-bidding conference will be held on May 26, 2003 at 1:30 p.m., 4th Floor Conference Room, Trade and Industry Building, 361 Sen. Gil J. Puyat Avenue, Makati City.

Submission and opening of bid documents will be held on June 10, 2003 at 1:30 p.m. at the same address.

For inquiries, please call **MR. CLAUDIO H. AVERILLA**, BAC Secretariat, at telephone numbers 890-4867 and 897-5672.

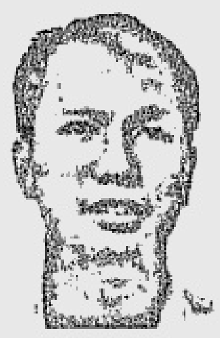
The DTI-BAC reserves the right to reject any or all bids, waive any defect therein, and accept the offer most advantageous to the Government.

By Authority of the Secretary of Trade and Industry.

(Sgd.) ARMIN B. RAQUEL-SANTOS
Assistant Secretary
Chairperson, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--April 27 & May 4, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



A Warrant of Arrest was issued by the Municipal Trial Court of Sta. Maria, province of Bulacan against **Joseph Geronimo Mallillin** whose picture appears above. Rewards will be given who will lead for the arrest of Joseph G. Mallillin, you may contact any of the following telephone numbers 362-0135; 330-3470 or 044-641-0792 to 94

(PDI – April 27 & 28, 2003)

TransCo
National Transmission Corporation

TRANSCO INTEGRATED TRAINEESHIP PROGRAM

In order to provide new graduates of engineering and technical/vocational courses the opportunity to acquire actual experience in the field of electrical power transmission, the **National Transmission Corporation (TransCo)**, created by virtue of Republic Act 9136 (the Electric Power Industry Reform Act of 2001) is a government-owned and controlled corporation that has assumed the electrical transmission functions in the major Philippine grids, announces the offering of its **Integrated Traineeship Program**, specifically the **Cadetship** and **Apprenticeship** Programs for year 2003

- **Cadetship Program** - on the job training for a period of six (6) months program for graduates of Electrical and Electronics & Communication engineering courses.
- **Apprenticeship Program** - on the job training for a period of six (6) months for graduates of technical/vocational courses (Technician, Electrician, Mechanic, Lineman).

Qualification/Requirements:

1. Not more than twenty five (25) years of age
2. Residents of Metro Manila
3. Must pass the TransCo psychological examination for Apprenticeship Program
4. Must pass the TransCo psychological and technical examinations for Cadetship Program
5. Official Transcript of Records (no failing grades in major subjects)

Interested applicants should personally apply and accomplish application form at **Human Resource Training Division**, Human Resources Department, Ground Floor, Power Center Building, Quezon Avenue corner BIR Road, Diliman, Quezon City from **May 5 to 16, 2003 at 1:30 p.m.**

For Cadetship Program, only those who pass the psychological examination will be qualified to take the technical examination scheduled on **May 31, 2003 (Saturday)**.

HUMAN RESOURCE TRAINING DIVISION
Human Resources Department
Power Center Building, Diliman, Quezon City
Telephone No. 922-5873

(PDI - Apr 27, 30 & May 4, 2003)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

BEST TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES, INC. LOST Official Receipts Nos. **70500**; **70851-70900** on **April 09, 2003**.

Any transactions with the use of the above lost receipts effective **April 09, 2003** shall not be honored and is considered null and void by **BEST TELEPHONE DIRECTORIES, INC.**

(PDI - Apr 27 2003)

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for Herbal Products

Interested parties may call

PPC Herbs

(02)455-0420; (02)456-2893

NOTICE

MARK DAVE C. MATURAN
is no longer connected with us
effective December 31, 2002.

COMGLASCO CORPORATION
Unit 2, Land R "US" Realty,
Metro Drug Compound
Manalac Ave., Tanyag, Taguig

(PDI – April 27, 2003)

Pretichage Manpower Services Inc.

has moved to its new address at

3rd Floor, R&S Perez Bldg.
#46 D. Silang St.,
Batangas City, Philippines

DBP Development Bank of the Philippines

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Development Bank of the Philippines is inviting Contractors with experience in government/private building construction for Eligibility Check for the construction of the proposed DBP Branch Building in San Francisco, Agusan del Sur with a budget of P 4.80 M.

Application for eligibility check is open to Contractors with (at least) "Medium A" IAC Category, registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission/Department of Trade and Industry and upon submission of its Certified Copy of the IAC Certification of Registration and Classification (valid for the period May 2003 - May 2004). Interested Contractors should signify their interest through a Letter of Intent and shall submit the documents listed in the eligibility requirement list available at the Architectural Design Division, 6th Floor, DBP Head Office, Makati City starting April 21, 2003 up to May 2, 2003.

All documents should be submitted not later than 4:00 p.m. on May 16, 2003 to:

THE CHAIRMAN
Bids and Awards Committee (BAC)
Architectural Design Division
6/F, Development Bank of the Philippines
Sen. Gil J. Puyat Ave. cor. Makati Ave.,
Makati City

The Committee shall follow the selection procedure provided for under Republic Act No. 9184.

The Bank reserves the right to reject documents which do not comply with the requirements.

Only eligible contractors will be notified and required to submit technical and financial proposals in separate sealed envelopes.

For further inquiries, please call Arch. Jose C. de la Fuente at telephone number (02) 815-09-45.

Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI--April 20 & 27, 2003)

People, Events & Products

E-mail: pr_pep@inquirer.com.ph

Editor **Aries Espinosa**

aespinosa@inquirer.com.ph

Touch Mobile heats up Baguio

AGA and Charlene with ASAP mainstays Sunshine Cruz and Piolo Pascual.

WHAT otherwise would have been a usually cool Sunday afternoon in the City of Pines had turned out to be a sizzling hot midday when an estimated crowd of 10,000 trooped to Burnham Park to watch the live telecast of ABS-CBN's variety show ASAP.

Featured in the three-hour show was a special program dubbed "Isang Milyong Pasasalamat ng Touch Mobile" topbilled by superstar couple-endorsers Aga Muhlach and Charlene Gonzales.

The audience, whom radio reports identified as residents not only of Baguio but also of its neighboring provinces like La Union and Pangasinan, were in a deliriously festive mood as they lapped up every entertainment number performed by ASAP hosts Vina Morales, Sunshine Cruz, Assunta de Rossi, Heart Evangelista, John Prats, Piolo Pascual, Carlos Agassi, Diether Ocampo, Carol Banawa, Bernard Palanca, and Rica Peralejo, and guests Judy Ann Santos, Bing Loyzaga, Bea Alonzo, Mylene Dizon, Aiza Marquez, Shaina Magdayao, Camille Prats, William Martinez, Yayo Aguila, Nonoy Zuñiga, Hajji Alejandro, Marco Sison, Lotlot, Matet and Ian de Leon, Ayen Munji, and many more.

Aga and Charlene, fresh from their successful Touch Mobile road tours in Batangas and Cavite, were in their best elements as they joined other stars in a well-applauded song-and-dance medley. The couple then thanked the crowd who, by then, were almost feverish with excitement, for taking part in Touch Mobile's celebration of coming close to hitting the millionth mark in subscriber base barely 18 months since its launch.

As a way of paying tribute to Touch Mobile's loyal subscribers, Aga and Charlene awarded Ma. Teresa G. Lawagan, a 21 year-old nursing student of St. Louis University, with a ten-year free supply of Touch Mobile cards.

Lawagan was just one among the ten-thousand-or-so people who braved the Touch Mobile-powered heat that tempered the cool mountain air of Baguio, to get a heavy dose of fun and live entertainment.

JRU TO DISTRIBUTE CPR BOOK COLLECTION

Jose Rizal University is undertaking the distribution of Carlos P. Romulo book collection to various school libraries in the country. Some 62 universities and college libraries in Luzon, Visayas, Mindanao and Metro Manila shall be the recipients of the said CPR books, in line with the wishes of Ms Beth day Romulo, who enlisted the book distribution to Jose Rizal University. The recipient libraries of the CPR book collection are taken from the rosters of the Philippine Association of Academic and Research Libraries (Paarl) and the Philippine Librarians Association Inc. (Plal). Said CPR collection of books were received by Jose Rizal University's main library during the term of its former chief librarian, Ms Loreto Serina. The new chief librarian, Ms Loreto Garcia and assistant librarian, Ms Sally Tuason, have taken the cudgel of dispatching the book bundles to various libraries all over the country. Photo shows CPR book collection for distribution to various school libraries. (From left): Ms Sally Tuason, assistant librarian of JRU, Ms Lorrie Garcia, chief librarian, supervising the preparation of book bundles, and library assistants on the foreground.

ROL MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND IN TAGAYTAY

The Reaching Out for the Lord (ROL) Marriage Encounter (ME) series of Tuklasan Foundation successfully conducted another weekend seminar in Tagaytay City last March 7 to 9. This was held at the Angels' Hills Retreat and Formation Center. The new class - ROL 17 - is composed of: Robert - Tinette Aventajado; Bobby - Clen Barbiran; Cyrel - Amor Buenabajo; Bong - Liza Carrera; Sonny - Joy Cipriaso; Gerry - Mona Gaw; Troy - Vina Inclong; Bobby - Evelyn Lozano; Dick - Rose Valenzona and Romy - Grace Velasco. The members of the ecclesial team were: Rev. Fr. Jess V. Fernandez, S.J., Buddy - Mel Macaranas and Nick - Marlyn Aquino. The next ME weekend (ROL 18) will be held on Sept. 5 to 7 at the same venue. For advance reservations, call Joe - Janet Saldaña - 842-4349; Freddie - Rachel de Leon - 536-8451 or 0917-848-8736; Gerry - Shiela Reglos - 807-3338; 770-6760 or 0917-904-8590; Gerry - Gina Martinez - 871-5141 or 0918-911-9680; Dong - Emie Lalic - 471-9613 or 0918-928-0293; Ricky-Marissa Manalo - 0917-816-2393 or 634-6513 to 15.

AIJC offers new program for LGUs

A NEW program designed to assist Local Government Units (LGUs) to strengthen their new public information services was recently developed by the Asian Institute of Journalism and Communication (AIJC).

Dubbed as AIJC Local Governance Public Information Program (AIJC-LGPIP), the program aims to develop and strengthen the capability of LGUs to set up or manage their public information units; plan, manage and monitor their own public information projects; and establish a management information system. It offers services in training, consultancy and research.

On the pipeline are two 3-day trainings on Planning and Managing Public Information Campaigns, scheduled on May 5 to 7, and Setting Up an Effective Public Information Office in your Local Government Unit, scheduled on May 8 to 10. For inquiries and registration, call 727-6799 or 725-4277 or email aijcmla@info.com.ph.

kiddi
Pharmaton

KIDDI PHARMATON RAFFLE DRAW WINNERS

Kiddi Pharmaton, the internationally-formulated multivitamin plus minerals that prepares the kids for the load ahead, recently conducted its first of two raffle draws for 'A Rewarding Head Start Raffle Promotions.' Fifteen Nokia 8210 cellular phones were given out as consolation prizes, while the three top prizes consisted of a holiday trip showcase, a computer showcase and an entertainment showcase. Winning the Bangkok Holiday Trip for four persons was Ms Elsa B. Panergayo of San Pablo City. Second prize winner of a computer showcase was Mr Herminigildo R. Sison of Novaliches, Quezon City, while third prize winner of an entertainment showcase was Ms Eden Tilado of Davao City. Kiddi Pharmaton's 'A Rewarding Head Start' consumer promotion will run until April 30. Final draw will be on May 15. Entries (Kiddi Pharmaton 120ml box with names, addresses, cellphone numbers, children's names and birthdates) may be sent to PO Box 2452, MCPO Makati or selected Mercury Drug outlets. Photo shows second prize (computer showcase) winner Herminigildo R. Sison (second from right) posing with family members and Pharmaton representatives.

MOBILE TELECOMS TRENDS AND INNOVATIONS FROM NOKIA

Mobile phone leader Nokia recently discussed trends and developments in the mobile telecommunications industry via a press forum held at the Manila Peninsula Hotel. Among the topics covered were the growth of the mobile telecoms industry, recent technological developments, and forecasts for the coming year. Also introduced were Nokia's latest lineup of phones which included the stylish imaging phone Nokia 7250, the Nokia 3650 with its built-in video recorder, the titanium encased Nokia 8910i, the Nokia 6800 featuring a pull-out qwerty keyboard, and the fun and user friendly Nokia 2100. Mobile enhancements such as the Bluetooth wireless headset and the Nokia music stand were also featured. Nokia is the world leader in mobile communications. Backed by its experience, innovation, user-friendliness and secure solutions, the company has become the leading supplier of mobile phones and a leading supplier of mobile, fixed and IP networks. By adding mobility to the Internet, Nokia creates opportunities for companies and further enriches the daily lives of people. Nokia is one of the most broadly held companies in the world with listings on six major exchanges. Photo shows Nokia mobile phones country manager Parikshit Bhasin sharing the latest growth figures of the mobile telecoms industry in his presentation.

Bits Clips

DMCI backs Firefly tour

THE FIREFLY Brigade, a citizen's volunteer action group whose advocacy is to work for clean air and a habitable, people-friendly environment in our cities, is all geared up for today's Tour of the Fireflies. Including rest stops, the event that normally takes about 3 to 4 hours will start off at the Marikina Riverbanks. The tour, so called after the glowing insects now rarely sighted in the metropolis due to poor air quality threatening their survival, is a 50-km bicycle ride around 7 cities to promote cycling as an alternative means of transportation that is environmentally friendly and healthy. DMCI Homes, regarded as the country's premiere urban residential developer, rallies and supports this noble cause. In a recent meeting at Pier One, DMCI Homes was represented by marketing support head Leonor Gopuco, Katti Santa Ana, convenor of the Firefly Brigade, and Edgar Jocson, DMCI project manager and Firefly Brigade member.

Shimano fishing tourney

FISHING enthusiasts are invited to a fun-filled fishing tournament today in Island Cove Cavite. The 1st Shimano Fun Fishing Tournament is organized by Chris Sports Plaza, the exclusive distributor of Shimano fishing equipment in the Philippines. This event is conceptualized to help promote fishing as a sport to be enjoyed by the youth and the young at heart. Aside from fishing, one can enjoy nature-the sun, the wind and the horizon. There will be prizes provided by Shimano. Tickets are available at all Chris Sports Plaza outlets. Joining fee is a minimum P350. For more details, cal Fish Finder Inc. at 373-0743 and look for Camille.

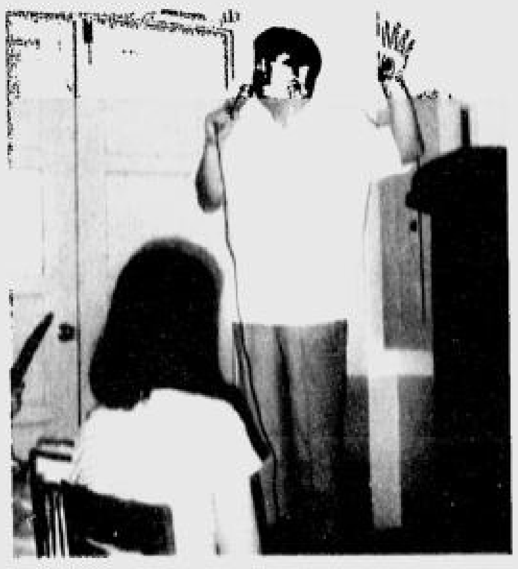
TV set to jubilarian

TO DRAW a bigger attendance on its Emerald Jubilee (55th year), the AHS Class of 1948 will give away a Sanyo color TV set as one of the raffle prizes during the 58th general alumni homecoming of the Arellano (Manila North) High School at Teodora Alonzo Street, Manila today at 2 p.m. Members are requested to submit their 2"x2" photo to Taling Javier (272-2509) at 20 Old Sanyo Road, Silvina Village, Novaliches, Quezon City, for inclusion in the souvenir program of Class '48. For more details, call Ludy Espinosa Tasalona (801-9774), Elvie Reyes (362-8194), Virgie Iligan Hernandez (421-1564), Severiano Luz (504-0094), Judge Max Contreras (971-4643) or class advisers former Rep. Martin B. Isidro (264-3586) and engineer Pastor B. Baguerra (721-6865).

My Special Valentine
8310

MSV RAFFLE PROMO WINNER

Jennifer Ibanez (second from right) of Lucena City is seen with Malou Medina, Dottie Pineda and Hazel Velas of Bookware Publishing Corporation after receiving her prize from the recent monthly draw of 'Nokia 8310 Raffle Promo.' For the readers of My Special Valentine (MSV) pocketbooks, the said promo has ended last February but is replaced by 'Nokia 7650 Raffle Promo.' The company announces that they will accept old coupons for the new promo which runs from March up to August 2003. For inquiries, call 631-8893 to 94.



ADVERTISING TALK AT ADU

Boy Pangilinan of Campaigns and Grey recently gave a talk entitled 'Advertising as an Effective Business Tool' at Adamson University. Pangilinan is one of the contributors of 'Science of Advertising', a reference on how advertising fits in the market mix. The book is part of a two-volume on advertising, the first one being Art and Advertising (Anvil Publishing).

MDC RECEIVES CERTIFICATION

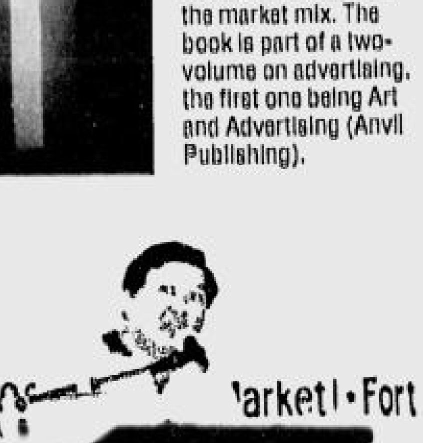


Photo shows Emilio J. Tumbocon, MDC president, delivering his closing remarks about the achievement of the company, the first construction company in the Philippines to receive the Integrated Management System Certification under the United Kingdom Assessment Services (Ukas) and Occupational Health and Safety Assessment Series (Ohsas) standards. The ISO awarding ceremony was held at the Hawker's Area of Market! Market! Global City, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig Metro Manila last March 26.

Bankers learn more by giving a helping hand

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

STANDARD Chartered Bank country financial officer Sridhar Raman was barely one month in the Philippines when he decided to go with other bank employees and visit the SOS Children's Village in Alabang, a haven for orphaned, abandoned, neglected and impoverished children.

Raman heard stories of how some of these children were forced to seek shelter because their parents were drunkards or drug addicts, or how parents left their children behind because they simply could not afford to take care of them.

But because of the work done by the Save Our Souls Children's Villages Philippines, a private, non-political welfare organization that provides long-term care and education to children in need, many of these children have gone on to build better lives for themselves and their families despite their extremely difficult circumstances.

SOS helped these children realize their dreams and Stanchart has committed itself since three years ago to be a partner in its efforts.

"It dawned on me that there are many things that we take for granted. But by helping these children we realize just how lucky we really are so we have committed to community service and be a part of its program for these children," Raman said in a briefing.

"We realize that for us to be part of providing a better future for the Philippines, we should help these children realize their dreams," Raman added.

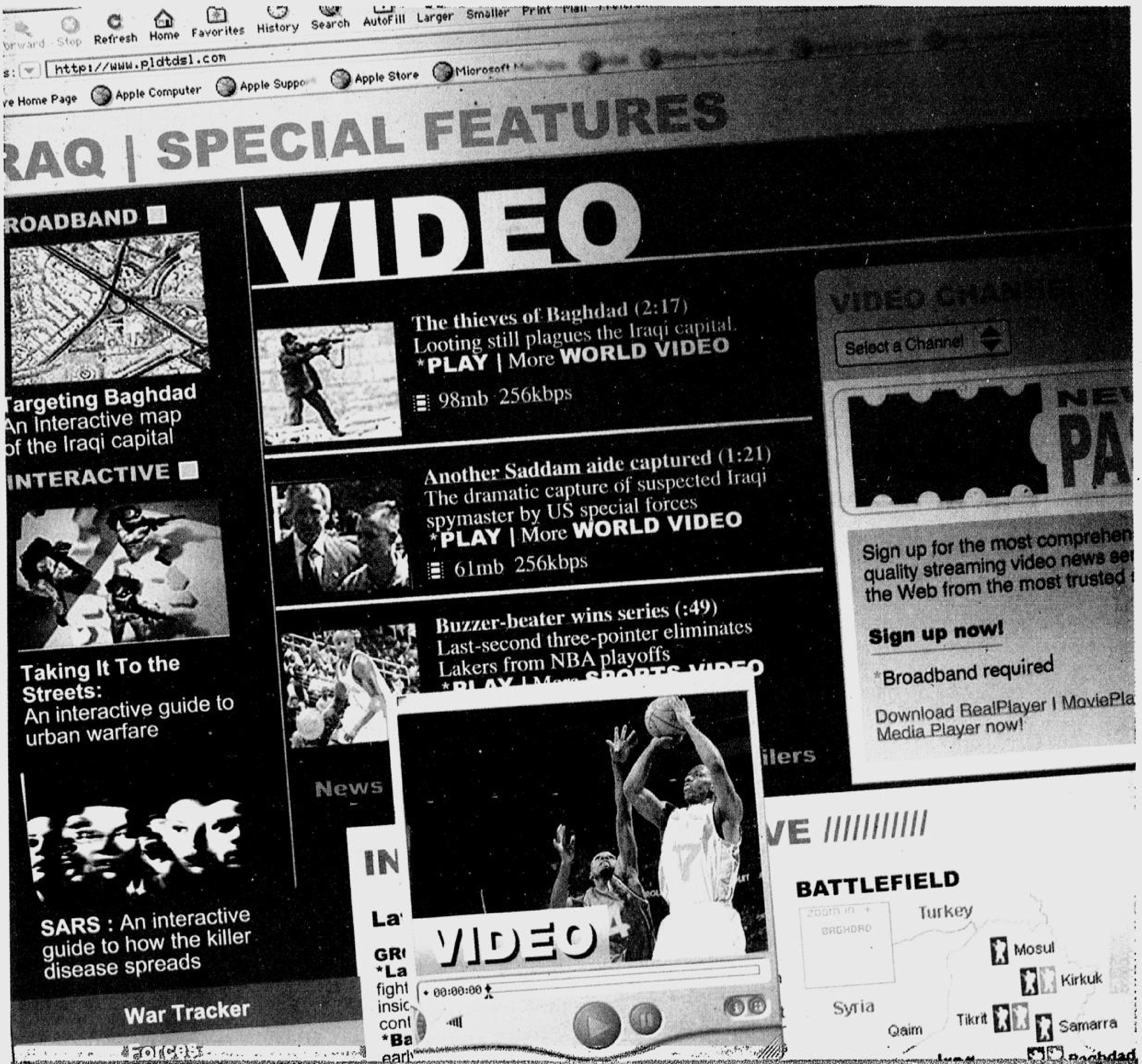
Stanchart, thus, set up learning centers in all SOS Villages nationwide, which are located in Manila, Lipa, Iloilo, Cebu, Tacloban, Calbayog and Davao.

The SOS Village in Alabang also became the first beneficiary of Stanchart's "Books Around the World" campaign.

Stanchart's branches in some 50 countries sent more than 5,000 titles to the Philippines and these are now at the blue and green Learning Center ben-

BANKERS/ B8

SCB SVP and Global Markets head Mike Aguilar reads an adventure story to the SOS children.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Forces
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The thieves of Baghdad (2:17)
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The dramatic capture of suspected Iraqi spymaster by US special forces
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ENTERTAINMENT

Editor Louie C. Camino

Imee Marcos takes over Joyce's role

By Marvi Ablaza Gil
PDI Visayas Bureau

CEBU CITY—Organizers of this year's re-enactment of the Battle of Mactan wanted sexy star Joyce Jimenez to play the role of Bulakna, wife of Lapu-lapu. But her talent fee was too steep for their meager budget.

Ilocos Rep. Imee Marcos agreed to take on the part—for free.

Lapu-lapu City Councilor Damian Gomez, chair of the Lapu-lapu City Council's tourism, cultural and historical affairs, told the INQUIRER that they had an initial list of actors for today's re-enactment of the historic battle. He said they wanted Jimenez and Pampanga Gov. Lito Lapid to reprise their roles in the 2002 movie "Lapu-lapu," which won best picture in the latest Film Academy of the Philippines Awards.

Lapu-Lapu

Lapid had initially agreed to play the role of Lapu-lapu in the re-enactment, but he later backed out, citing other commitments. Fellow actor Roi Vinzon took over the role.

The organizers made initial inquiries about Jimenez but decided they could not afford to hire the actress. This year's re-enactment budget is only P1.75 million, a lot lower than last year's P3.5 million.

Although the event is a project of the Lapu-lapu City government, it is highly dependent on contributions from the private sector. For this year, the organizers were not able to get many sponsors as the economic crisis has prompted a number of business firms to cut back on expenses.

Last November, Marcos was the guest of honor during the feast day of Lapu-lapu City's patroness Birhen sa Regla (Virgin of the Rule). It was then that the re-enactment of the Battle of Mactan was discussed, as well as which actress would play Bulakna's role.

To the delight of the members of the city council, Marcos volunteered to be Lapu-lapu's wife in the re-enactment, according to Gomez.

Mactan Island

Marcos, a frequent visitor of the resorts on Cebu's Mactan Island, is not exactly an acting neophyte. In her younger days, the eldest child of the late strongman Ferdinand Marcos used to act on stage as member of the Philippine Educational Theater Association (Peta). She was also behind the Experimental Cinema of the Philippines (ECP) during the Marcos years.

Another actor, Dante Rivero, will portray the role of the Portuguese explorer Ferdinand Magellan. The rest of the cast is composed of more than 400 actors from different Mactan barangays and the stick fighters of the Mactan Island Eskrima Alliance.

Vinzon, Rivero and Marcos were to rehearse only yesterday, just a day before the play date. Director Daisy Baad would brief them on their blockings.

The actors will be performing on ground covered with slippery mud and mossy rocks.

Magellan

Only on its second year, the re-enactment has become a major tourist draw. The Battle of Mactan commemorates the first uprising against Western aggression.

On March 17, 1521, Magellan reached the island of Cebu. He befriended the Sultan of Cebu and successfully introduced Christianity. Lapu-lapu, however, refused to bow to Magellan. To teach him a lesson, Magellan decided to attack Lapu-lapu on Mactan Island.

The Battle of Mactan was fought on the shore at low tide. The Spaniards, it turned out, were no match for Lapu-Lapu and

IMEE/ C6

NO NEOPHYTE when it comes to acting, Rep. Marcos (above) plays a lawyer in the GMA 7 telenovela "Ang Iibigin ay Ikaw Pa Rin." She's doing the one-day role today for free, after organizers found they couldn't afford Joyce Jimenez.
FILE PHOTOS

Kris: 'Sex 3 times a day' /C3

AQUINO

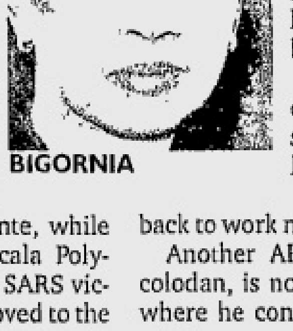
Martin Nievera 'very bitter' over TV special /C3

Dingdong Avanzado has a new girl /C3

PUBLIC DISPLAY
Michael Douglas makes a show of his affection for his father Kirk Douglas as they arrive for the premiere of their new movie together, "It Runs in the Family," in Los Angeles.
REUTERS

ABS-CBN reporters, crew in quarantine after SARS coverage

By Leah Salterio



BIGORNIA

ABS-CBN reporters Doris Bigornia and Dindo Amparo and six members of the production crew have been quarantined after covering the death of SARS victim Adela Catalon in Alcala, Pangasinan.

Bigornia and Amparo were sent to Pangasinan on Holy Wednesday following the death of Catalon on Holy Monday, April 14.

Bigornia covered the wake at Catalon's house in Barangay Vacante, while Amparo did interviews at the Alcala Polymedic Trauma Hospital, where the SARS victim was confined before she was moved to the San Lazaro Hospital in Manila, where she eventually died.

When Amparo returned to Manila on Holy Thursday, he was already running a fever, according to Luchi Cruz-Valdez, ABS-CBN vice president for news.

"But it wasn't until after Adela's father (Mauricio) died last Tuesday (April 22) that we were alarmed, because Doris also interviewed him," Valdez added.

"Upon the advice of the Department of Health (DOH) and our company doctor, Doris, Dindo, the crew and six other people who were with them in Pangasinan were subjected to quarantine tests," Valdez said.

"We did that for the safety of the other people in our news room and our office."

She said, however, that according to the tests, Bigornia, Amparo and the rest of the production crew showed no SARS symptoms. Still, Bigornia, Amparo and the others have been isolated, even from their families, for 14 days, said Valdez.

Bigornia is staying in an apartelle in Sucat, Parañaque, near her house. Amparo is in a house in Quezon City, far from his family in Laguna.

"All their expenses are shouldered by the network," Valdez said. "They are on vacation leave, but with pay.

"They are expected to go back to work next week," Valdez added.

Another ABS-CBN reporter, Aladdin Bacolodan, is now in Alcala, Pangasinan, from where he continues to file SARS-related reports.

When Bacolodan returns to Manila, he will also be subjected to a quarantine test, according to Valdez.

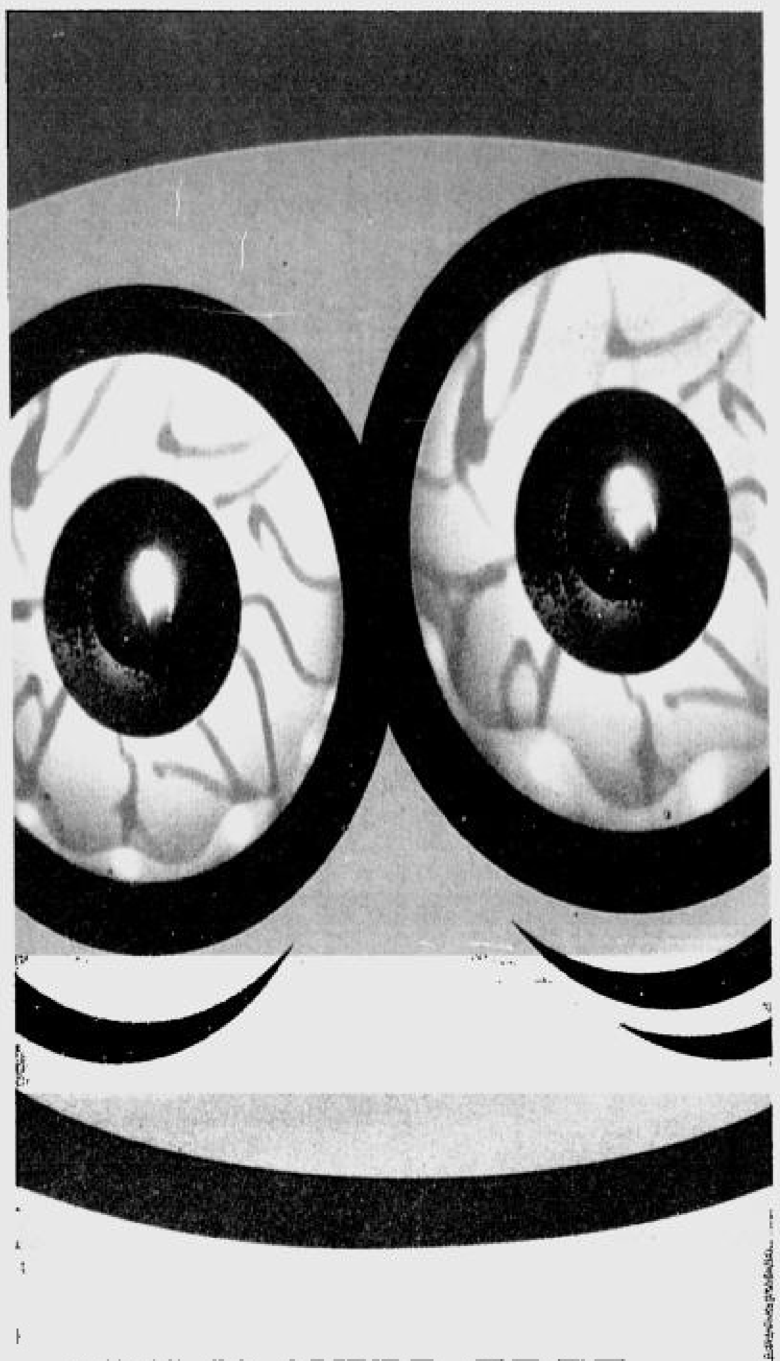
"Our newsroom is far from being a leper colony," the network executive said to dispel fears. "It is a very safe place."

Early this week, Bigornia did a report on her undergoing tests at St. Luke's Hospital for possible SARS symptoms.

"When the hospital staff learned that she had come from Alcala, they told her to proceed to San Lazaro or to RITM (Research Institute of Tropical Medicine) in Alabang," Valdez said.

"The (hospital) guard banned her from going inside the E.R. They don't even have an isolation room. But at the end of the day, she was also checked up."

Bigornia went to San Lazaro Hospital to get a second opinion.



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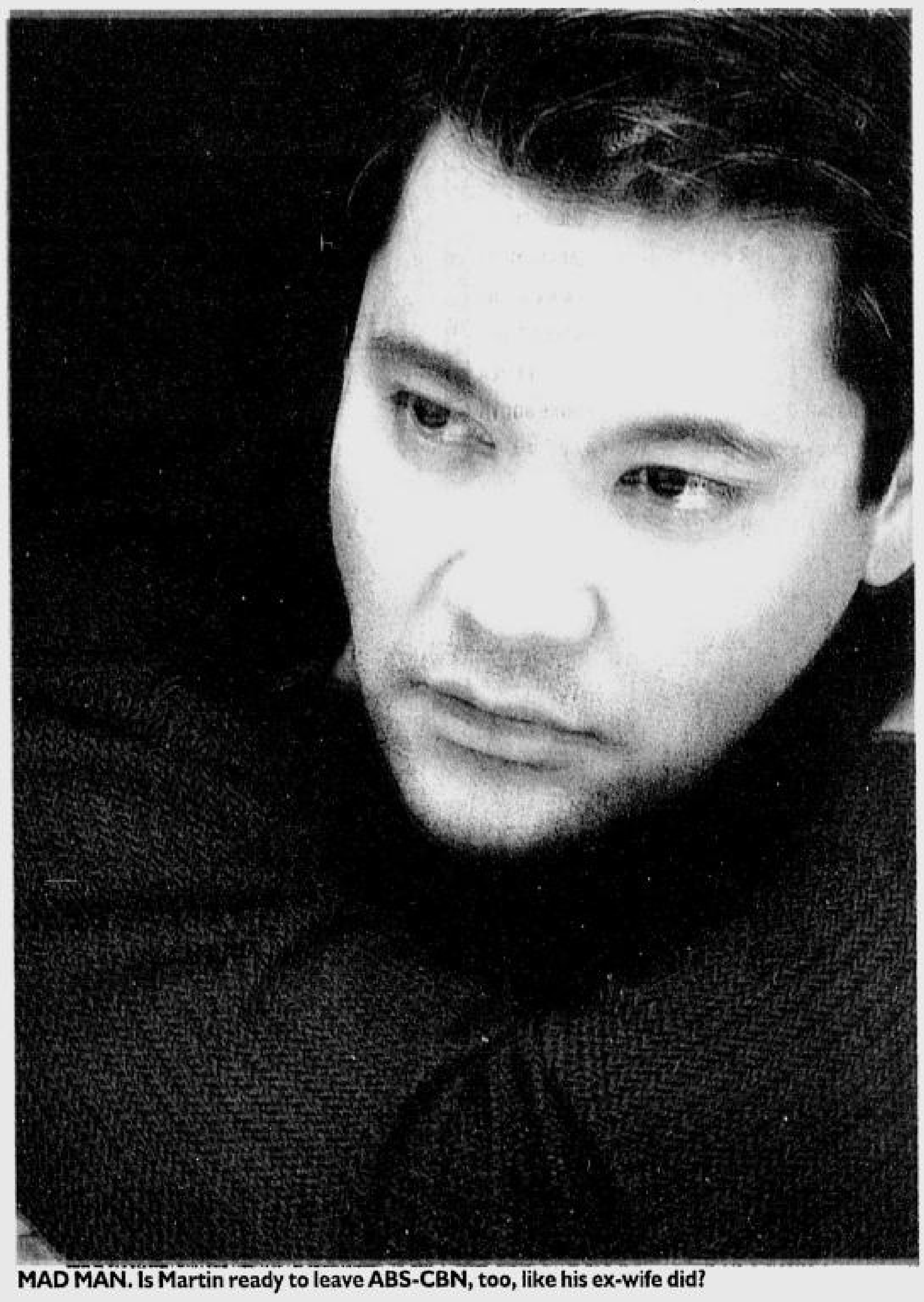
Martin 'very bitter' at ABS-CBN for 'milking' concert with Pops



MAD MAN. Is Martin ready to leave ABS-CBN, too, like his ex-wife did?

SHOWBIZ TIDBITS

Leah Salterio

MARTIN Nievera is not happy—in fact he's "very bitter"—that ABS-CBN made more money from his February concert with ex-wife **Pops Fernandez.**

"I am really very bitter about it," Martin said. "They decided to milk it for whatever it's worth."

The network is airing the Araneta Coliseum concert as a two-part special, on April 20 and tonight at 9:30 p.m.

Normally, the two-and-a-half hour show would have been aired as a Sunday night special. But ABS-CBN is airing the two-part special for a total of six hours. Imagine the commercial load packed in those six hours.

When Martin found out through the station's TV plugs that the concert would be aired for two Sundays, he called up a network production bigwig and expressed his feelings about it.

Martin's late-night show, "Martin Late@Nite," will soon bow out of the network. It is still not known whether he will be given a new show.

Pops herself has left ABS-CBN and is now with GMA 7, where she will soon have her own show.

'3 times a day'

KRIS Aquino doesn't hide anything from the public. She has been candid about herself, to a fault, revealing details from her bra size to her sex life.

In a recent episode of "Morning Girls," her co-host **Korina Sanchez** asked Kris how often she has sex. Without batting an eyelash, Kris replied, "*Hay, naku*, three times a day."

That was heard on nationwide TV. And that's from a busy woman. Imagine if she's not so busy with two daily TV shows.

But she didn't say with whom she does it in bed.

Kris will soon start doing a movie for Regal Films, following her award-winning turn in **Joel Lamangan's** "Mano Po" in the Metro Manila Film Festival last December. **Mac Alejandre** will direct the new movie.

Dingdong's new girl

DINGDONG Avanzado has a new girl in his life. But he can't see her till June 12, the day his wife **Jessa Zaragoza** is scheduled to give birth to a baby girl, whom they will name **Janelle Amanda.**

The singing couple has thought of a name for their firstborn—Jayda.

"We wanted the baby's nickname to be Jada, like **Jada Pinkett**, the wife of **Will Smith**," Dingdong shares. "But we're worried that people might always mispronounce her name, so we added the 'y.' In our baby book, 'Jada' means 'wise,' while 'Amanda' means 'worthy of love'."

Since last month, Jessa has stopped working in preparation for childbirth.

"HIGH TIME." Dingdong Avanzado returns to the live concert scene.

"We've stopped going out," says Dingdong. "We stay home most of the time. Even before the breakout of SARS, Jessa's doctor had advised her against going to the malls because she might be susceptible to German measles."

Dingdong and Jessa celebrated their second wedding anniversary last March 18. This year also marks Dingdong's 16th year in show biz.

Dingdong will have a solo concert, "High Time," on May 24 at Music Museum, with guests **Kyla**, the Whiplash Dancers and A-Petite Band.

"I'm being blessed with a baby girl and I've been in show biz for 16 years now," Dingdong says. "I am happy to have come this far in the business and I am grateful to all those who have helped me and supported my career."

Dingdong's most recent hit, "Walang Kapalit," a revival of a **Rey Valera** song, is the second single from Dingdong's Star Records album, "Here to Stay."

He says his talent manager, **Manny Valera**, has decided to make him visible and active again in the live concert scene. "He (Manny) wants to see me doing more live performances," Dingdong says. "After all, it is where I started.

"In the past, people only heard about me because of my love life and other controversies," he allows. "I lost my focus on my singing. They heard my songs on radio and they saw me on TV but they hardly saw me as a live performer. Now, we want the public to see me more in live shows."

Louie Ignacio will direct "High Time."

"**Barry Manilow** has been a big influence on my songwriting and even on the way I sing, so I will do a medley of his songs," Dingdong promises.

Archie Castillo will arrange some of the songs, while **Elmer** of A-Petite Band will work with Dingdong as musical director.

Wickedly wacky without being excessive

VIEWFINDER

Nestor U. Torre

EVER since James Bond hit the silver screen with his high-tech weaponry and cool bedside manner, secret-agent movies have just been begging to be spoofed. Austin Powers has had a great success doing just that, as did "Get Smart" on TV many years before that.

But there's so much left to wickedly satirize, so the entry to the field of **Rowan Atkinson** in "Johnny English" is definitely neither redundant or anticlimactic.

In fact, Atkinson achieves a solid success in his own right, different from that of the Austin Powers spy spoofs. This is because, while Powers is gleefully over-the-top and no-holds-barred, "Johnny English" is wickedly wacky without being excessive.

It's more realistic in its approach, so the (many) laughs it elicits are warm instead of hysterical. This is screen comedy at its creative best, with Atkinson pacing the rest of the movie's similarly antic cast of comics.

Atkinson comes from the **Charlie Chaplin** or more properly the Lloyd and Langdon school of screen comedy. He uses his deadpan facial expressions with the comically astute expertise of a master. He can express more with a precisely-raised eyebrow than a series of slam-bang jokes delivered by a lesser comedian.

In "Johnny English," Atkinson plays the title character, no less. He's only a clerk at the secret service's headquarters, but is pushed to the top of the spy heap by circumstances beyond his control.

He's so clueless that his lack of preparation is no sweat, no problem. He cheerfully bumbles along, letting other agents clean up his mess. The big punchline is, despite his utter klutziness, good still manages to triumph over evil (no thanks to him).

In "Johnny English," the "master" spy and his associates are pitted against a veritable evil genius (**John Malkovich**), a Frenchman who wants to succeed Queen Elizabeth to the British throne, so he can turn England into a huge prison, and criminals' haven.

At first, it looks like all is lost but, just as the evil French interloper is about to be crowned as Great Britain's new monarch, Atkinson suddenly does a Tarzan act and plucks the crown from his evil nemesis head —and it lands on his own noggin! The Queen has abdicated; long live the new King (of comedy).

The action is light, fast and droll throughout the production, and Atkinson keeps the comedy both deft and eventful with his sleights of laughter. As in his "silent" TV comedy series, "Mr. Bean," some years ago, he's at his best when he doesn't say anything at all, and lets his body (and viewers' imagination) take care of the cinematic fun and games.

Other deft performances are turned in by Malkovich, and **Natalie Imbruglia** as the master spy's "surprise" associate. But "Johnny English" is Rowan Atkinson's movie through and through, from start to finish, and to the superlative comic manner born.

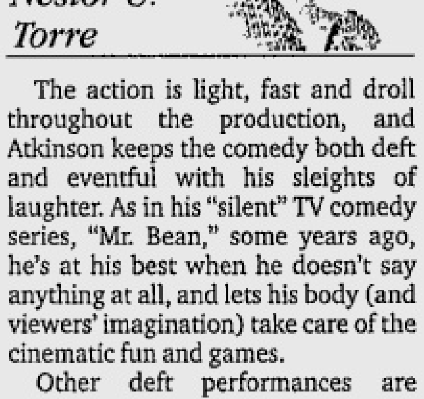
Pasig Summer Music Festival

"SUITE for Jazz Trio" by celebrated French composer **Claude Bolling**, along with modern works by **Astor Piazzola** and **Juan Cadiz**, will close the 2003 Pasig Summer Music Festival at 5 p.m. today, April 27, at the Pasig Museum in Pasig City.

Featured artists are flutist **GJ Herman Gomez**, pianist **Mary Anne Espina**, classical guitarist **Chaitanya Aquino**, bass player **Claire Sobejano**, and drummer **Bell Naranjo**. Call 641-0211.

'Whispers: An Elephant's Tale'

STAR Movies screens the heartwarming feature, "Whispers: An Elephant's Tale," at 9 p.m. today, April 27 (replay at 3 p.m. on April 30).



ATKINSON

Whispers, a baby elephant, is separated from his mother. He searches desperately for her, but instead finds the sassy and fiercely independent Groove, an outcast from her own herd, and the last elephant in the world to be a substitute mom.

Unfortunately for Groove, Whispers takes firm hold of her tail, and refuses to let go, and the two become an unlikely family. They brave the hidden dangers of the dark forest and make their way to the Great River, a paradise for elephants.

'The Robbie Williams Show'

[V] SPECIALS on Channel [V] at 11 a.m. today, April 27, screens "The **Robbie Williams** Show." The special celebrates Robbie's new maturity, and his growth as a musical artist through the years.

The show was shot at Pinewood Studios and filmed in front of Robbie's fans. During the musical journey, Williams reveals his talents, performs many of his new songs, and reprises his greatest hits.

UP Film Center anniversary

THE 27th anniversary of the UP Film Center will be celebrated on Wednesday, April 30. Screening of Film Treasures start at 2 p.m., with "Dreams" by **Akira Kurosawa.**

At 7:30 p.m., the film on view is "I Dreamed of Africa" by **Hugh Hudson** (at the center's Cinemalibre Theater). Call 926-3640.

'Mad City'

AT 7 p.m. on April 30, Star Movies screens "Mad City" by ace director **Costa-Gauras** ("2," "Missing"). The explosive drama about the impact of television news on society topbills **Dustin Hoffman** and **John Travolta.**

dzMM Emergency Expo

dzMM invites families to join the radio station's Emergency Expo 2003 and Summer Camp on May 17 and 18 at Camp Aguinaldo. The free overnight camp gives participants—CPR, first aid, drills and team competition.

Other activities: 3K family fun run, rescue games, forum for husbands and wives, group games—even a lecture on bomb detection. Best family prizes are P20,000 for first, P15,000 for second, and P10,000 for third.

Registration is ongoing until May 9 at the dzMM Public Service Center, ABS-CBN Broadcast Center. Only 100 families can be accommodated. Call 924-4101 local 5674, or 924-2615.

DID YOU KNOW...

Pops Fernandez and INQUIRER columnist and Philippine Tatler editor in chief **Anton San Diego** have made a pact between them. They vowed that if they remain romantically unattached at 50, they are going to tie the knot. They have a long way to go. Both are 36 years old. They were erstwhile classmates at International School.

TWO OF THE COUNTRY'S MOST POWERFUL VOICES...TOGETHER AT LAST!
MARTIN NIEVERA
REGINE VELASQUEZ
LIVE! AT THE ARANETA COLISEUM
MAY 9 & 10, 2003 • 8:30PM
FRIDAY & SATURDAY
TICKETS AT P175 • P400
P800 • P1200 WITH LIMITED
PRIME SEATS AT P1800 AVAILABLE AT
SM TICKETNET 911-5555
MAXIMEDIA TICKETING OFFICE 551-7777 551-8999
(plus a 3% ticketron service charge)
WATERFRONT CEBU CITY HOTEL
MAY 2, 2003 • FRIDAY • 8:30PM
SM DEPT. STORE 231-2424/231-0627
WATERFRONT HOTEL 232-6888
GRAPHIC FX 234-048
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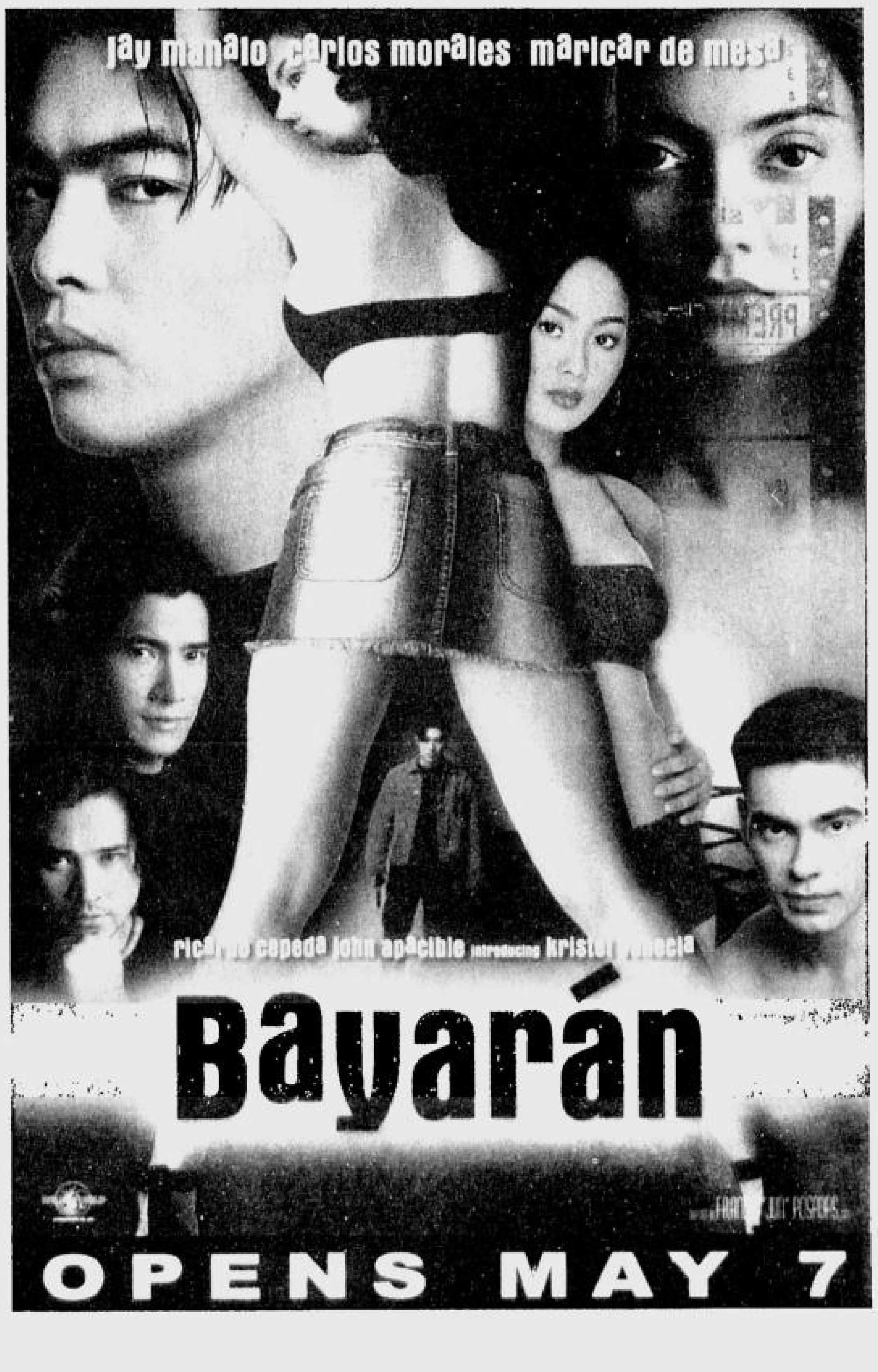
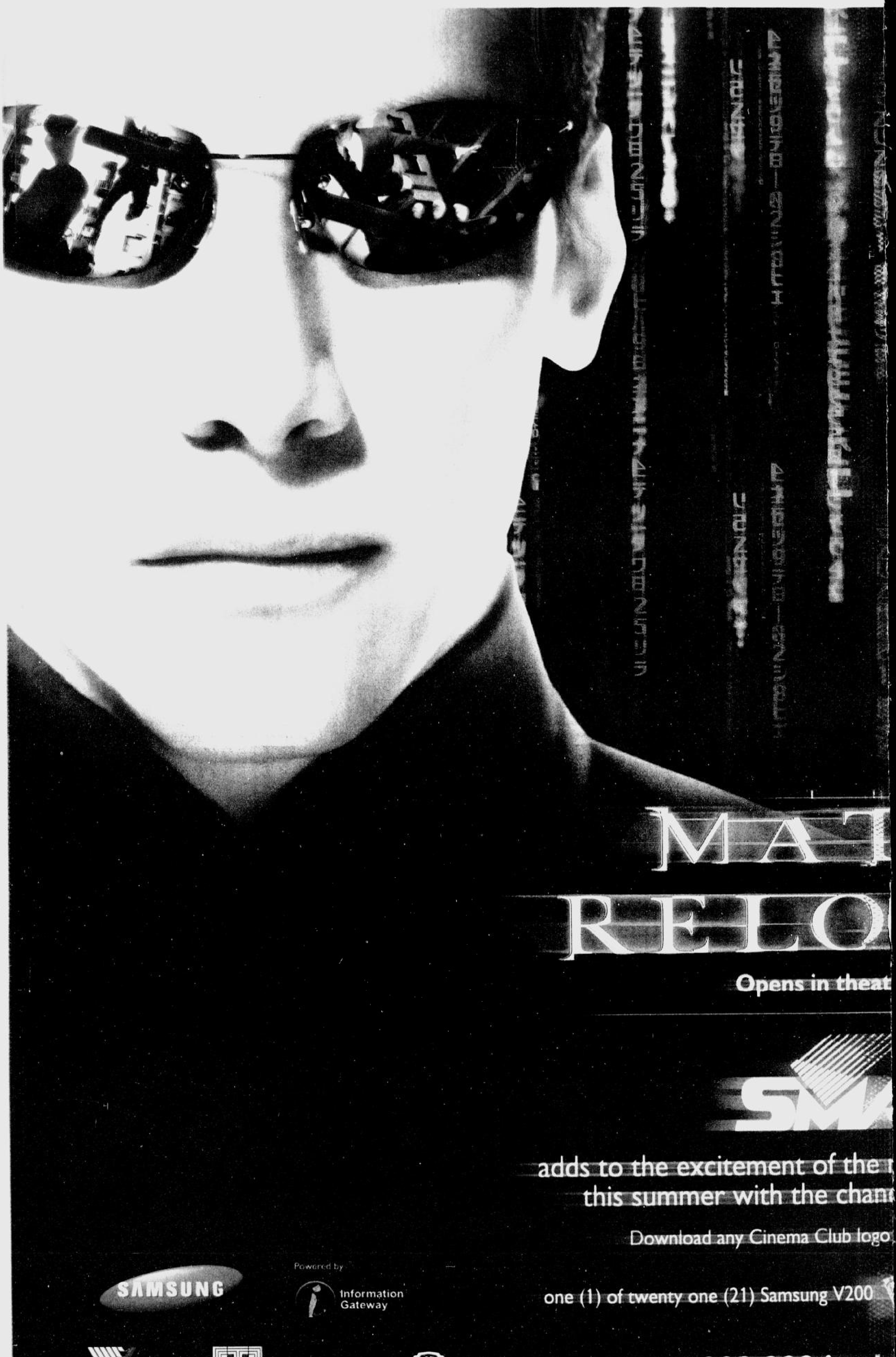
A very limited engagement only.
Reserve your tickets now!



jay manalo carlos morales maricar de mesa
cepeda john apacible introducing kristel
Bayarán
OPENS MAY 7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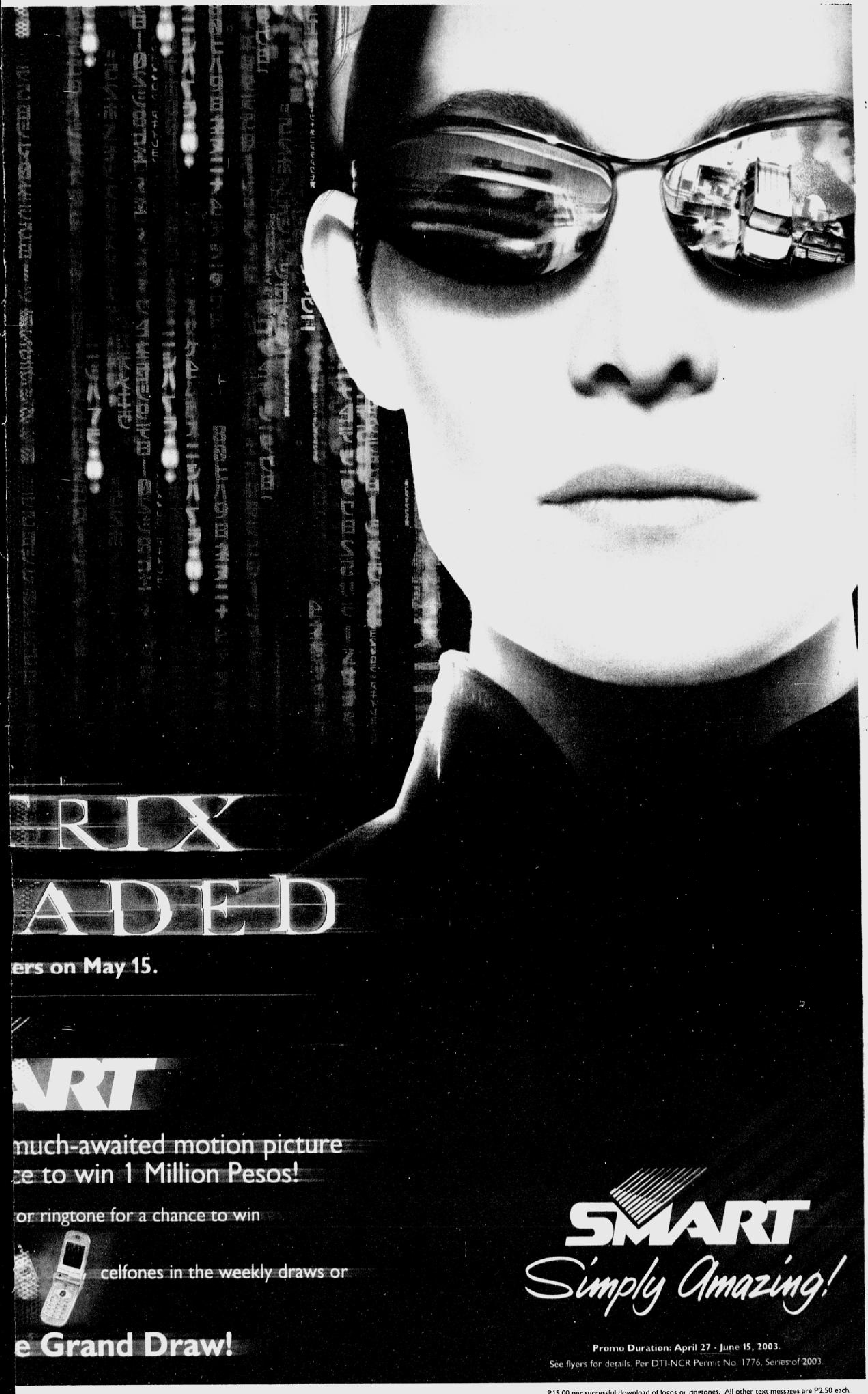

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Simply Amazing!

Promo Duration: April 27 - June 15, 2003.

See flyers for details. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 1776, Series of 2003

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send to 239 today.

Imee Marcos takes over Joyce's role

From page C1

his men who fought using *machetes*, bamboo sticks, bows and arrows, and spears. Lapu-lapu succeeded in killing the explorer from Portugal.

For the first time, the re-enactment will feature *arnis*, the art of stick fighting as seen and recorded by European historian Antonio Pigafetta. Also known as *pangamut* (use of hands) or *eskrima, arnis* uses bamboo sticks as weapons.

According to a book written by Baltazar Gonzales in the 1800s, *pangamut* was brought to Mactan by Datu Mangal, father of Lapu-lapu and direct descendant of the Bornean datus who migrated to the Philippines to escape a repressive ruler.

Arnis is acknowledged as the only indigenous Philippine martial art.

THEATER MOVIE GUIDE

MANILA	
EASTERN	
MAXIM	CLOSED
MIRAMAR	BALAT SIBUYAS / TRI-SEVENTEEN
ODEON	BOLDSTAR
ODEON-2	HAYOP SA SEX APPEAL/ BATAS ANG UUSIG
ROBEN	PUNLA
TANDEM-1	SUGAT
TANDEM-2	KATAWAN MO LANGIT KO
TIMES	HARRY POTTER / THEY
QUEZON CITY	
ACT-1	SENSUAL ISLAND
ACT-2	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
ACT-3	ORIGINAL SIN
ACT-4	HANGGANG KAILAN KA PAPATAY
CORONET A	PUNLA
CORONET B	A MAN APART
QUEZON-1	PUNLA
REMAR	BOLDSTAR
REMAR-2	PUNLA
NOVA MALL - NOVALICHES CINEMA	
A	PUNLA
B	BOLD STAR
C	
MANDALUYONG CITY	
SHANGRI-LA PLAZA MALL	635-20-79 / 633-78-51 TO 70
CINEMA-1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-2	THE JUNGLE BOOK 2
CAINTA RIZAL	
STA. LUCIA EAST	(681-5401 TO 19)
CINEMA-1	KASIPING
CINEMA-2	BOLDSTAR
CINEMA-3	PUNLA
CINEMA-4 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	PHONE BOOTH
CINEMA-5 (DTS)	KANGAROO JACK
CINEMA-6	SEX DRIVE
CINEMA-7	THE CORE
CINEMA-8	KAULAYAW
CINEMA-9 (DTS)	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
CINEMA-10 (DOLBY DIGITAL)	ANGER MANAGEMENT
CINEMA-11(SDDS)	JOHNNY ENGLISH
CINEMA-12	A MAN APART
CINEMA-14	EQUILIBRIUM
CINEMA-15	JUNGLE BOOK 2
LORES	
CINEMA-2	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-3	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
NE CINEMAGIC - CABANATUAN	
CINEMA 1	DIE ANOTHER DAY
CINEMA 2	BAHID
CINEMA 3	HARRY POTTER
CINEMA 4	CHANGING LNES
UNIWIDE COASTAL MALL	
(PARAÑAQUE)	SENSUAL ISLAND
CINEMA-1	KAYA KO PERO MASAKIT
CINEMA-2	MEN IN BLACK II
CINEMA-4	SELDA

THE LAUGHTER STARTS ON MAY 7!
MTRCB RATING ▶ PG-13 Children below 13 yrs. old will only be allowed if accompanied by a parent or adult.
"SIDE-SPLITTING, KNEE-SLAPPING, BELLY-ACHING LAUGHS!"
Mose Persico, ENTERTAINMENT SPOTLIGHT, CTV MONTREAL
Steve Martin Queen Latifah
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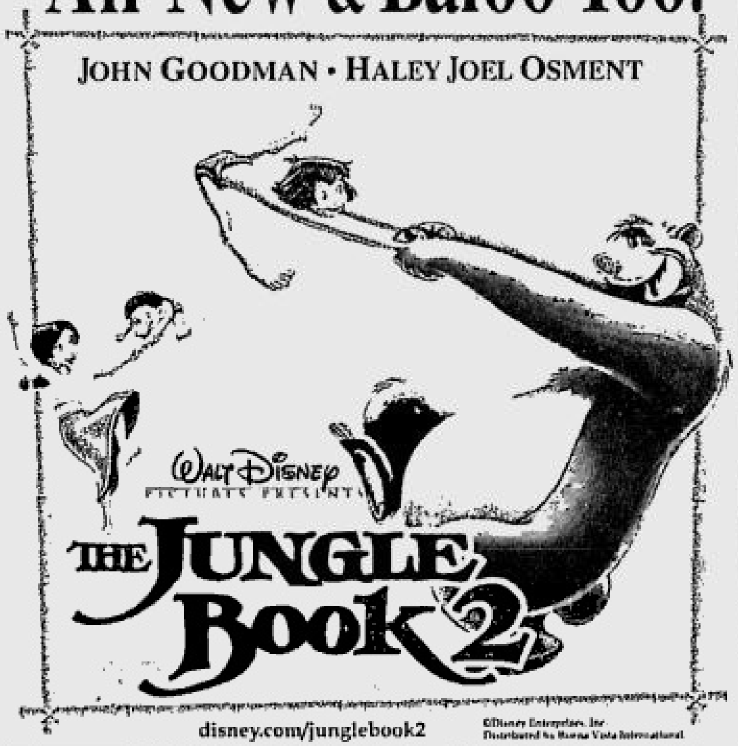
Distributed by Buena Vista International thru Columbia Pictures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NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING ▶ G General Patronage ALL AGES ADMITTED
All-New & Baloo Too!
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Walt Disney Pictures Presents
THE JUNGLE Book 2
disney.com/junglebook2
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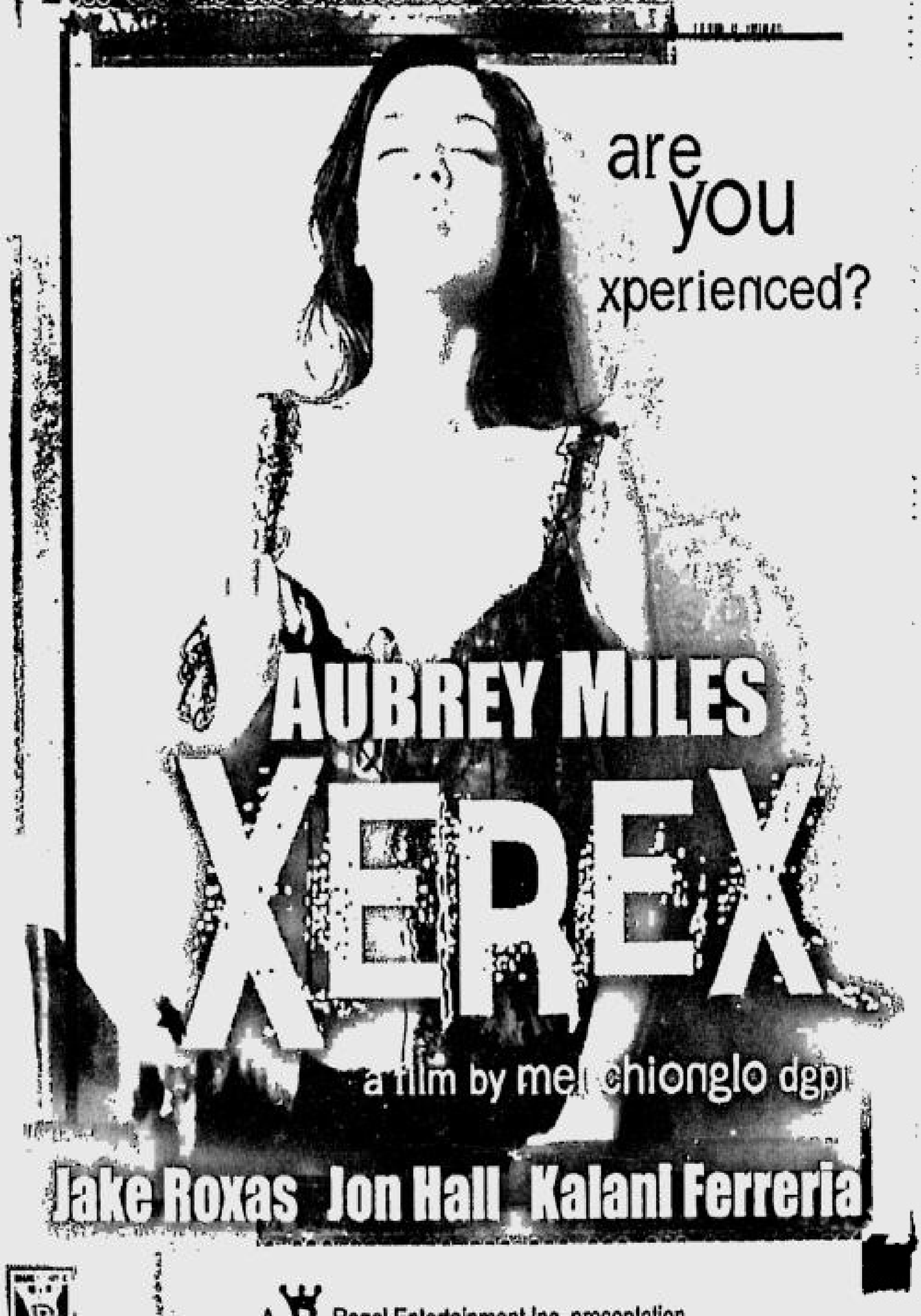
THE TIME HAS COME
FOR THOSE WHO ARE DIFFERENT
TO STAND UNITED.
X-MEN 2
IN THEATRES APRIL 30

OPENS APRIL 30
A Star Cinema 10th Year Anniversary Presentation
I have been waiting for so long. It was you all along.
Ronaldo Valdez Gina Pareño Pen Medina Marissa Delgado
Jennifer Sevilla Gerald Madrid Angel Jacob and Matet de Leon
Judy Ann Santos Piolo Pascual

Till There Was You
Directed by: Bb. Joyce Bernal
LEONARDO Bags Pacific Blue SHADES STAR CINEMA
Text YOU and send to 2366

OPENS APRIL 30!
The BESTSELLING SEX COLUMN
Now a Headliner Event!!!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a film by mel chionglo dgpi
Jake Roxas Jon Hall Kalani Ferreria
A Regal Entertainment Inc. presentation
visit our website at www.regalfilms.com/movie/xerex for more

Joey G, Bituin share Captain's Bar stage

CROSSOVER ARTISTS. Joey Generoso and Bituin Escalante together for the first time.

SHOW TIME

SIDE A vocalist Joey Generoso and fast-rising singer Bituin Escalante will share the stage for the first time in "Crossover Presents," May 8 at Captain's Bar of Mandarin Oriental Hotel.

Being with Side A for more than a decade, Joey G. continues to elicits shrieks among the female audience that follow their seemingly never ending stream of shows in music lounges and concert halls. The attention can be attributed not only to his charming presence onstage but also to his smooth, distinct voice that has produced numerous chart-topping hits for the group.

Bituin's husky alto and chutzpah not only echo her immense talent but also her accomplishments as a theater actress. Her every performance oozes with tremendous energy and verve. Soon, her first single, "Kung Ako na Lang Sana," will be followed by another sure-fire hit since she recently snagged a record deal that will have some of the music scene's award-winning songwriters as producers.

Joining Joey G. and Bituin onstage are The Opera, plus first-rate musicians Mel Villena, Cesar Aguas, Bobby Taylo and Roy Mercado under the musical direction of Gerard Salonga.

Da Capo's unique instrumental renditions start at 8 p.m.

For ticket inquiries, call the Crossover office at 712-9755 or 712-9764, Ticket World at 891-5610 or Captain's Bar at 750-8888.

Solo concert

ARIA Llanes, 21-week champion of ABC-5's "Sing-Galing," gets her ceremonial entry into the concert scene with a solo show, "This is Me, Aria," April 29, Tuesday, 8 p.m. at the Music Museum.

Former Southborder vocalist Luke Mejares, Lance Raymundo and Richard Villanueva will guest in the show.

Petite but gifted with a very powerful voice, Aria started joining and winning in amateur singing contests at a young age in her hometown Butuan City and its neighboring towns.

Her dad is a versatile music instrumentalist and her mother and siblings are also good singers. Her professors and classmates at AMA (where she is a Computer Science student) encouraged her to join "Sing-Galing," when the top-rated show held one of its campus tours at their school.

"This Is Me...Aria" is mounted by Charles Greene Productions and directed by Angie Magbanua, with Gerry Matias as musical director.

Movie plus
Every Greenbelt 3 movie ticket that you buy instantly gives you more!
AYALA CINEMAS
CHIMARA
YOU GET:
2 FREE TIMEZONE GAMES
ONE PASS PER PERSON PER DAY. YELLOW SWIPERS ONLY. VALID ONLY ON DATE PURCHASED.
20% DISCOUNT ON CHIMARA NEO-VEGAN CAFE
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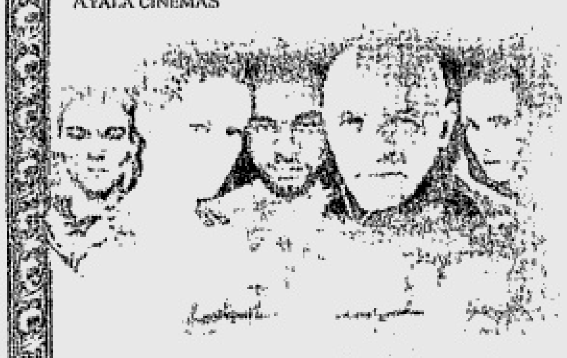
SEE POSTERS FOR MORE DETAILS
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. A1- 071 , Series of 2003.



AYALA CINEMAS
NOW SHOWING AT ArtFilm
DARING, AWARD-WINNING, EXTRAORDINARY
Love, revenge and power form a deadly struggle in this fierce Roman drama by Shakespeare.
TITUS
ANTHONY HOPKINS & JESSICA LANGE
Harry J. Lennix, Alan Cumming, Laura Fraser
In this epic tale of revenge based upon the play of William Shakespeare, Anthony Hopkins stars as Titus Andronicus, the Roman general who sows the seeds of vengeance when he executes the son of the enemy Queen, played by Jessica Lange. The repercussions of his action are revealed when the vindictive woman becomes the new wife of the Roman Emperor.
"The single most visually dazzling movie of the last half-decade."
– Kevin Thomas, LOS ANGELES TIMES
MTRCB Rating: Restricted 18 (R-18)
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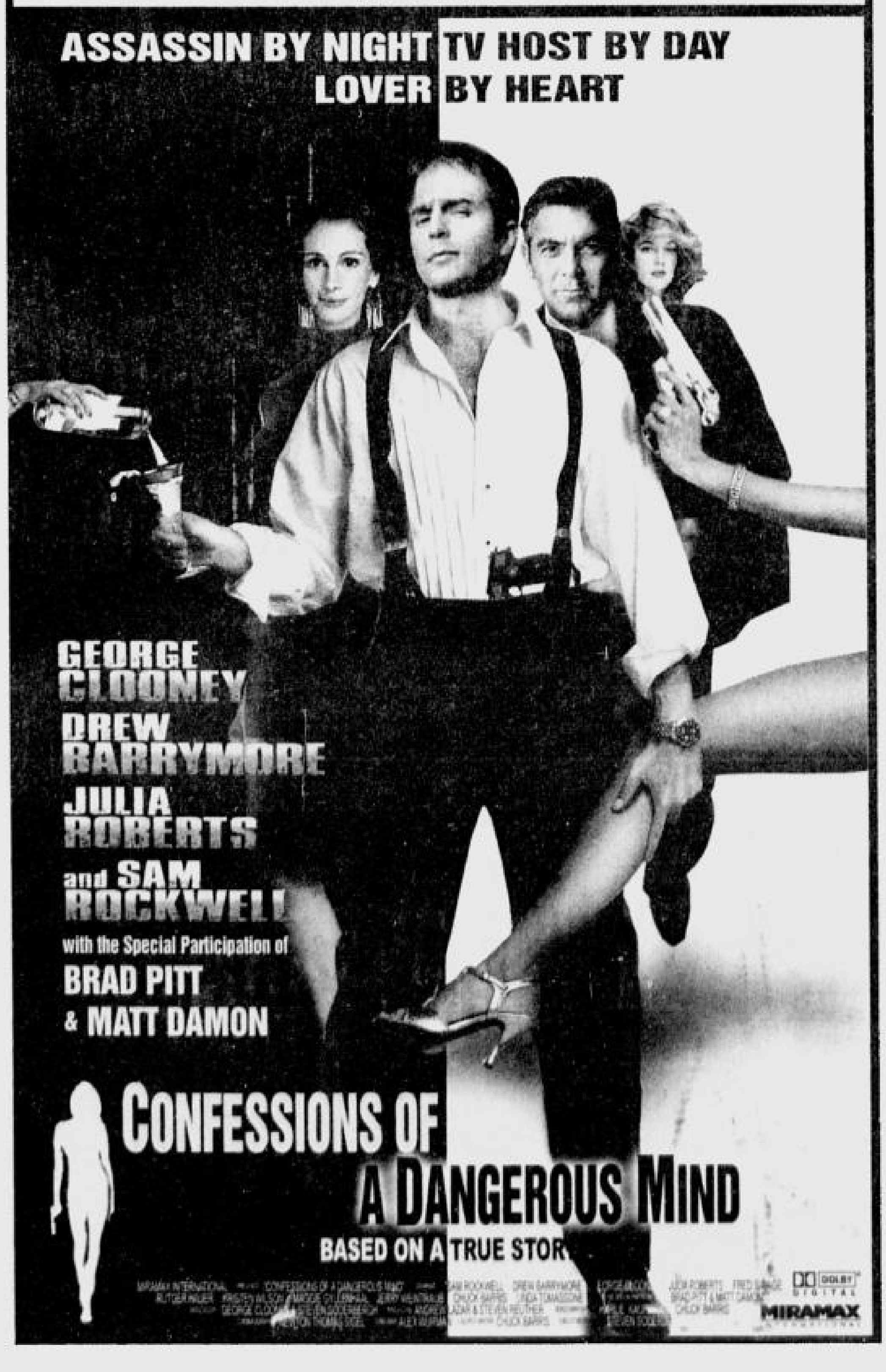
GET YOUR TICKETS IN ADVANCE!
OPENS APRIL 30 AT
AYALA CINEMAS
Glorietta 1 & 4 / Greenbelt 1 & 3
Alabang Town Center
Buy your tickets directly at Glorietta 4 & Greenbelt 3 Cinemas.
Or reserve your seats at www.sureseats.com
For screening times, call 729-7777
MTRCB Rating: Parental Guidance 13 (PG-13)
PEPSI

OPENS MAY 7
Catch the Advance Screening of
"CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND"
on May 6, Tuesday, 7:30PM, at the SM Megamall Cinema 3
MAGIC 89.9
For FREE invites simply log on to www.magic899.fm
A TRUE STORY OF ONE MAN'S RISE TO FAME AND NOTORIORITY



ASSASSIN BY NIGHT TV HOST BY DAY
LOVER BY HEART
GEORGE CLOONEY
DREW BARRYMORE
JULIA ROBERTS
and SAM ROCKWELL
with the Special Participation of
BRAD PITT
& MATT DAMON
CONFESSIONS OF A DANGEROUS MIND
BASED ON A TRUE STORY
MIRAMAX

POWER PLANT
CINEMA
Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41

WHAT A GIRL WANTS GP 11:10, 1:20, 3:30, 5:40, 7:50, 10:00	ANGER MANAGEMENT R13 11:05, 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:05, 10:20	JUNGLE BOOK 2 GP 11:50, 1:30, 3:10, 4:50, 6:30, 8:10, 9:50
PHONE BOOTH R13 12:35, 2:30, 4:25, 6:20, 8:15, 10:10	SHADOW OF THE VAMPIRE R18 11:40, 1:40, 3:40, 5:40, 7:40, 9:40	JOHNNY ENGLISH P13 12:10, 2:10, 4:10, 6:10, 8:10, 10:10

MATINEE P80.00 - FREE SEATING - SCREENINGS BEFORE 5 PM - MON. TO FRI.

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GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!
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CINEMA 2 ANGER MANAGEMENT 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:15, 9:40 GP
TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE.
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA • 7224496

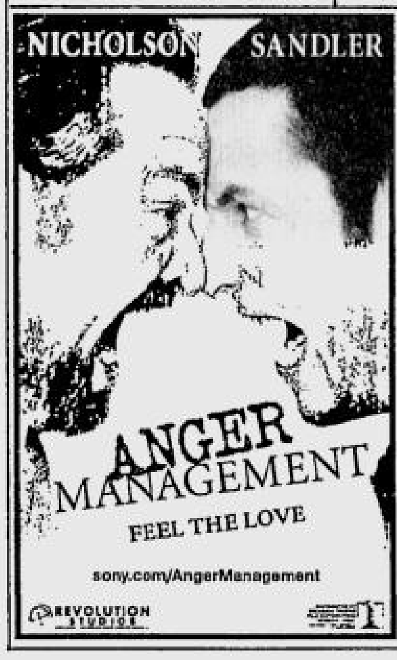
MUSIC MUSEUM
APR 29,2003 "THIS is ME I..." (Aria Llanes) 9:00PM
FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL: 721-6726 OR 721-0635

Axe Brazil!
The Brazilian Festival at Greenbelt 3 Level 3, April 27 to May 3.
- Featuring the music of Brazilian band, Guarana.
- Smooth Brazilian dance and Martial Arts moves by the Grupo Capoiera Manila.

Other activities:
- Free Jam for local percussionists.
- Workshop on Capoiera Art supported by the Brazilian Embassy.
- Discount on food and drinks.

Greenbelt. A new experience in dining and entertainment amidst the green
AYALA CENTER

MTRCB R-13 Strictly for 13 years of age and up



Adam Sandler, Jack Nicholson offer non-stop laughs in fun, new comedy
In the No. 1 comedy in America, Adam Sandler and Jack Nicholson star together for the first time as patient and therapist -- though at times it's hard to tell which one is which!
After a misunderstanding aboard an airplane, mild-mannered Dave Buznik (Sandler) is ordered to attend anger management sessions run by outrageous psychiatrist Dr. Buddy Rydell (Nicholson).
Tortured by Buddy's wacky and abrasive confrontational methods, Dave must decide whether to crawl back into his shell or stand up for himself, and keep his girl (Marisa Tomei) along the way.
With surprise appearances by top celebrities.
NOW SHOWING

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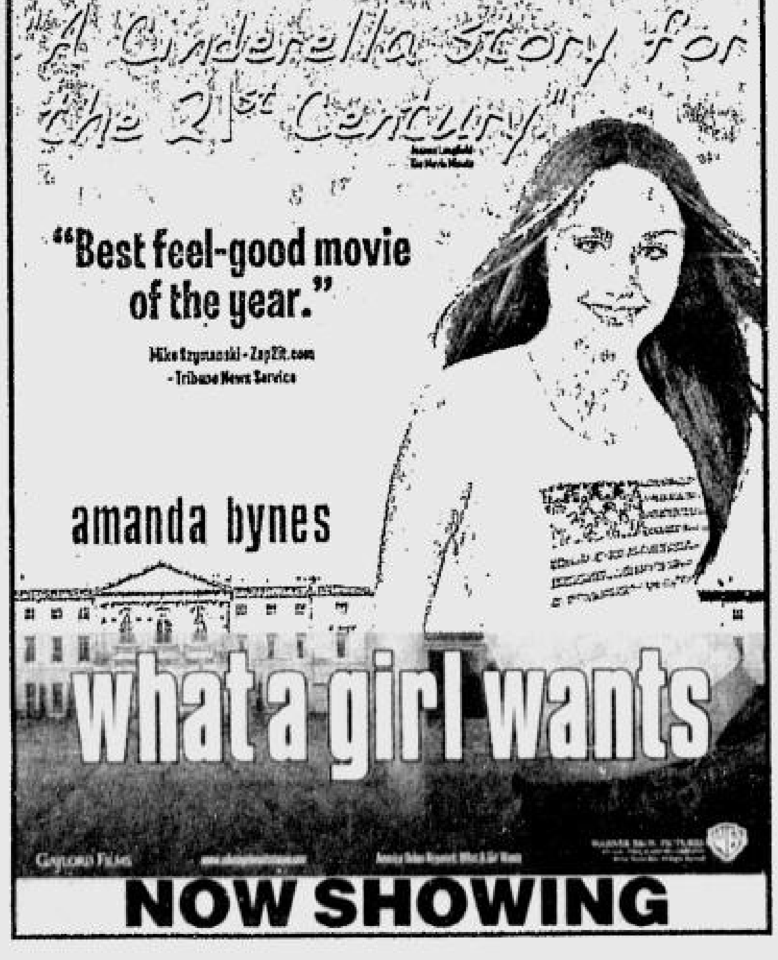

"A Cinderella story for the 21st Century"
"Best feel-good movie of the year."
Mike Szymanski - ZapIt.com - Tribune News Service
amanda bynes
what a girl wants
GAYLORD FILMS
NOW SHOWING

Araneta Center
ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

ALI MALL CINEPLEX 7	
Ali 1	WHAT A GIRL WANTS
Ali 2	A MAN APART
Ali 3	ANGER MANAGEMENT
Ali 4	JOHNNY ENGLISH
Ali 5	PHONE BOOTH
Ali 6	JUNGLE BOOK 2
Ali 7	EQUILIBRIUM
FARMERS PLAZA CINEMAS	
Farmers 1	A MAN APART
Farmers 2	BOLD STAR
ARANETA COLISEUM	
APR 27	PBA GAMES
APR 28 & 30	NCA 7 COCK DERBY
MAY 9 & 10	MARTIN & REGINE CONCERT

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AMAZING ELEPHANT SHOW I - 5PM
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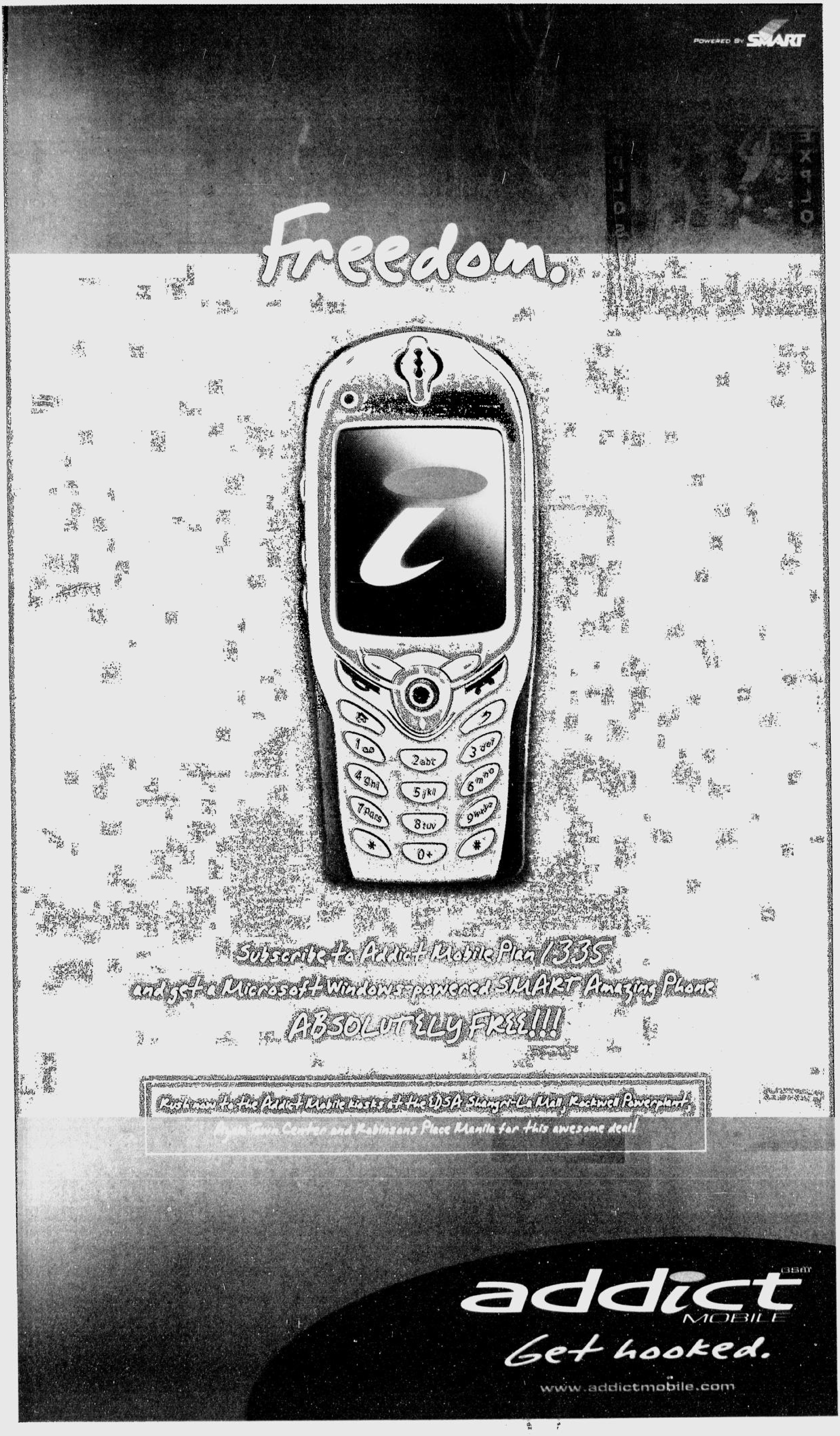
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ABSOLUTELY FREE!!!

Rush now to the Addict Mobile kiosks at the EDSA Shangri-La Mall, Rockwell Powerplant, Ayala Town Center and Robinsons Place Manila for this awesome deal!

SUNDAY, APRIL 27, 2003
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Sunday LIFESTYLE

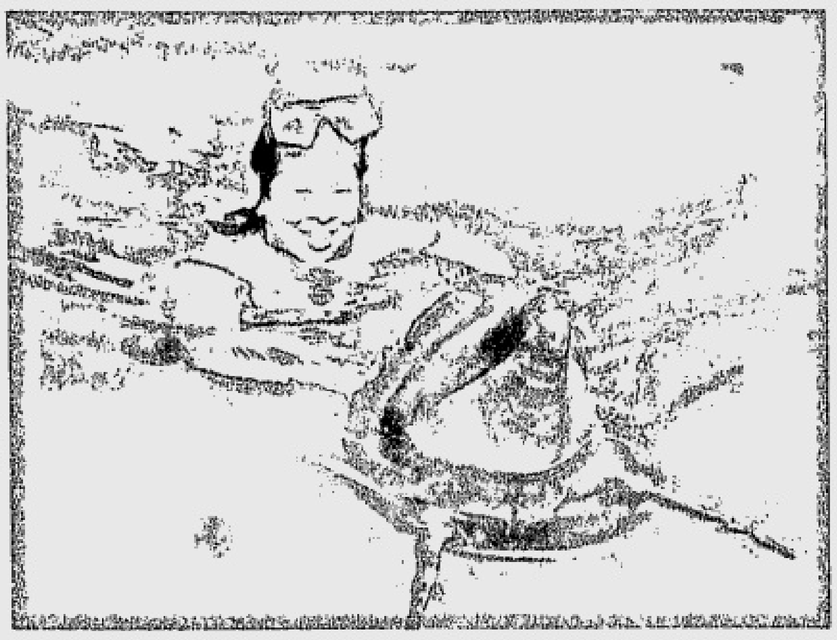
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

PUREFOODS
Ham

CREATIVE
EXPLOSION
EXPLOSION
MALATE
N

IN THIS ISSUE

Joey Reyes asks: Do we really want to relive our youth? page D2



Dallying with the dolphins and other joys in Palau section H

Guest Editor: Markus Schmidt section E

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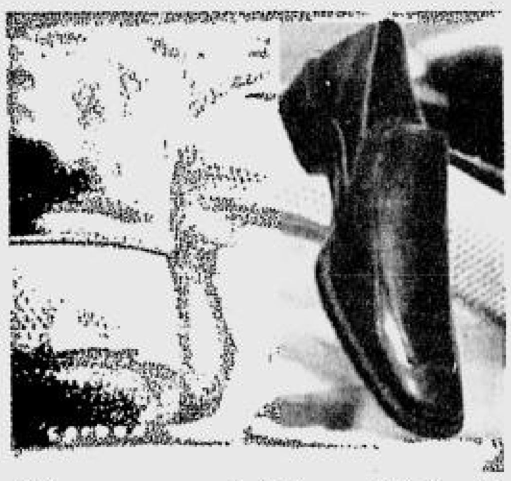

'Sex and the City' bids farewell, among other hot items on Tn'T page G1

Valencia-Belangel nuptials page J1

Herrera-Tee Ten nuptials page I1

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will rock your world.
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keyword: dontstay
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keyword: faint
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keyword: lyingfru
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keyword: figure
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keyword: frdinsyd
Nobody's Listening
keyword: listening

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Promo duration: April 30 - May 31, 2003
Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0961, Series of 2003

Do we really want to relive our youth?

By Jose Javier Reyes
Contributor

SO there we were in some scenic enclave in the City of Pines taping an episode of a drama anthology with the very beautiful Kristine Hermosa and the man every woman wants to be the father of her children, Piolo Pascual.

Amid the foliage and the sinful outburst of blossoms, a good friend of so many years shared a few moments with me as the set-up was being completed. She was an actress, and she was with me to enjoy a few days of respite.

As I gasped for breath while climbing to the top of the slope where we were shooting, she started a conversation that completely demolished any illusions of romance about the uniqueness of moment and locale.

My friend talked about the travails of perimenopause.

Of course, we were of the same age. We had known each other, since, uh, high school, and although we trod different paths, the necessity of work brought us together again. People our age went through the entire Gail Sheehy route: we saw each other during our turbulent teens, endured each other during the terrible 20s and wrestled with our demons as we lived through the terrific 30s.

We read enough self-analysis books to anticipate the crises that go with the sagging of the flesh, the bloating of the middle, the loosening of facial muscles, all resulting in diminishing returns when it comes to the search for a lifetime partner. In other words, both single and about to join Bea Arthur's legendary gang of Golden Girls, we have come to consider ourselves survivors.

Emotional setbacks

But then a question came to mind. Was surviving enough? Yes, there were emotional setbacks—even unpleasant epiphanies when we met college-age kids of our contemporaries. Worse, we started to get invited to the weddings of our friends' children—no longer as secondary sponsors but as godparents. Oh, God!

Conversations during "happy" get-togethers involved the itemization of ailments like factory defects, ranging from perennial constipation to uncontrolled blood pressure, from cardiovascular problems to gastrointestinal difficulties. We heard of contemporaries leaving this earthly existence... and we suddenly developed a profound interest in the obituaries.

It was as if one morning you woke up to find you turned into exactly the sort of bloke you once laughed at when you could boogie all night and still make a lot of sense at the 9 a.m. meeting the following day.

It was not as if this was all unexpected. The consciousness of mortality had emerged when the body started manifesting physical signs that showed every day of the so many decades of your life.

Why was it that a week-long crash diet did not yield the same amount of weight loss it did in your 20s or 30s? Why did many hours of sweating like a harassed racehorse on the treadmill fail to get rid of those bulging inches around your middle? Why did you suddenly look unforgivably ridiculous, even sacrilegious, when you sported hipsters?

Ravaged by time

My friend started enumerating all the anguish she felt because her body was beginning to feel the ravages of time. She talked about hot flushes, mood swings and the fear that after her fertility ceased, she would no longer be the same person.

I tried to console her by saying she could finally say goodbye to menstrual cramps and the risk of bearing a love child if she should be reckless, careless or downright desperate. But that did not help. We spent the rest of the time talking about something that nobody talked about but everybody had to go through. And the mood was dispiriting.

Well, yes. People exert Herculean efforts to try to push back Father Time. We come up with all sorts of theories and practices to preserve the vibrancy of youth. We go through periodic facials (complete with laser toning, mud pack, pure oxygen therapy), pamper various parts of our anatomy including our feet (foot scrub, paraffin dipping, foot sanding). If these were not enough, hand me the syringe with 50 units of Botox, my dear.

Cosmetic surgeons make millions and have houses built in the most stylish corners of the suburbs because there are those with money and of age who will go under the knife to have their fats pumped out, facial skin stretched like alligator leather, not to mention the correct size and shape of proboscis installed on a face where eye bags and wrinkles have been erased.

We rush to the gym. We lock ourselves inside sauna cubicles until we look like overcooked dimsum; we have our flesh massaged, oiled, scraped and peeled, hoping that after spending a few thousand pesos, we will emerge from a salon, clinic, spa or loony bin looking like Kristine or Piolo, who are young enough to be our children.

Mental fitness

We can always claim all this is for our health—mainly, our mental health—or that we work too hard and deserve the egotistical indulgence as we try to have the derriere of Jennifer Lopez.

There is nothing wrong with looking good—as long as we feel good, too. If we feel good about ourselves despite and because of our age, then fine. There is no law against dyeing your hair in a strange shade of red closely resembling the color of *rambutan* to hide the whites and grays. Besides, half the joy of primping is not in the effect it has on people—but in boosting our courage to look at the mirror right after we get out of bed.

As we drove back to Manila, my friend and I talked about what our lives—how, by circumstance and maybe by choice, we were both still alone. We went through the roster of the loves of our lives, ended up laughing really hard, enjoying the wisdom and comfort that years provide, assessing moments that constituted our lifelines.

We came up with one conclusion: we were not growing old, we were merely gaining vintage. Menopause, much like puberty only coming from the opposite direction, was a necessary phase. Unlike hair dyeing or Botox injections, it was a natural process a homo sapien went through to get to a next level of life. So how could it be so bad?

Then we asked ourselves: If we had the power to pull back time, would we go back to when we were 16 years old? We looked at each other and laughed again. Oh, no, no, no! Never! Despite the sagging skin, the receding hairline and the bloated tummy, we would never go back to those years when seeking for—and defining—one's self meant drowning in major errors and unfruitful emotional investments.

Here we were nearing the half-century mark. We should be happy. We've been there... done that... and, yes, there's still a helluva lot more to do... even if it means rubbing peppermint foot lotion on our feet each night before we go to sleep alone in our beds.

> Despite the sagging skin, receding hairline and bloated tummy, we would never go back to those years of major errors and unfruitful emotional investments

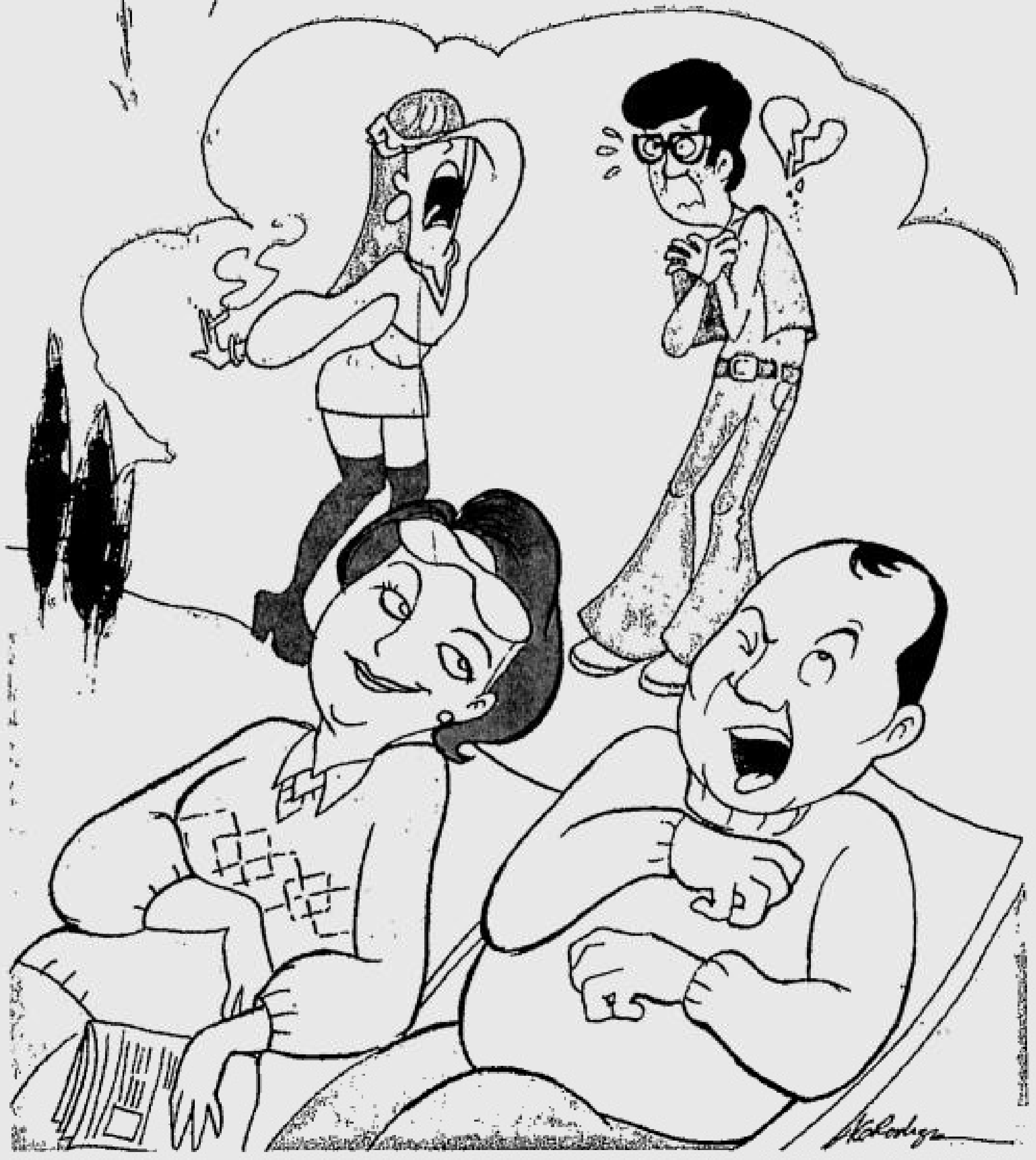

ILLUSTRATION: ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

The Experts Speak Up!

Michael Alexius A. Sarte, MD, FPSOHNS, PSSM
Ear, Nose and Throat Surgeon
Specialist, Snoring and Sleep Disorders
Section Unit Head, Center For Snoring
and Sleep Disorders (The Medical City)

Snoring, Defined and What it Can Lead To.

Your basic information on snoring problems

A man can do only what he can do. But if he does that each day he can sleep at night and do it again the next day.
- Albert Schweitzer

Find it hard to get your eight hours' worth of sleep because of your loved one's loud, irritating snore? Most of us inevitably do so during our restful slumber. However, more than causing domestic disputes, snoring may actually indicate a serious health condition that requires medical attention.

What causes snoring?

NGOORK

Snoring is the noisy breathing through the nose and mouth during sleep. It affects about half of men and a quarter of women from 40 years old onwards. When you sleep, the muscles in your tongue, throat, and palate relax, and as you breathe, air passes through these relaxed muscles, causing them to vibrate. These vibrations create those all-too-familiar sharp, hoarse sounds. The narrower the airway becomes, the more intense the vibration, thus the louder the snore.

Why do we snore?

Overweight people are predisposed to snoring because they have narrower and less firm throat tissues. Enlarged/swollen tonsils or adenoids, a low, thick palate, or an elongated uvula (the triangular piece of tissue hanging from the soft palate) can also cause the airway to be narrow and obstructed, thus increasing the vibrations.

Nasal congestion and blockages due to allergies can also cause snoring by limiting the amount of air that flows through the nose, forcing you to breathe through the mouth.

Snoring can also be attributed to taking alcohol and certain drugs, such as tranquilizers, as these can cause relaxation of throat muscles.

Consulting your ENT doctor

Snoring loudly with occasional pauses in breathing can signify sleep apnea, a serious disorder where the throat tissues cause the airway to close. When this happens, breathing stops and oxygen is cut off from the body. The brain detects the significant loss of oxygen, and it signals the person to wake up and re-open the airways. The interruptions in one's sleep can last for 10 to 30 seconds, and can be repeated several times during the night. Because of this, sleep apnea in adults increases the risk of health problems, like heart failure, high blood pressure, and stroke.

It is of utmost importance to seek your ENT doctor for medical advice on loud and frequent snoring, so he or she may evaluate and recommend possible treatments.

Snoring... Snoring... Gone!

Changing your lifestyle can greatly reduce snoring. Try the following measures to quiet down at night:

- Maintain a healthy diet and weight,as being overweight is a common cause of snoring. Don't forget to exercise regularly.
- Treat nasal congestion by using decongestants for no more than 3 consecutive days.
- Regularly gargle with an antiseptic mouthwash. This helps prevent enlarged or inflamed tonsils and adenoids that may cause increased tissue vibrations.
- Limit alcohol and sedative intake.
- Sleep on your side, instead of your back.

Zzzz

When loud snoring continues and worsens, your ENT doctor might suggest performing surgical procedures such as laser surgery and somnoplasty or using dental devices, nasal strips, or pressurized masks.

A good night's sleep is not a luxury. Rather, it is a necessity. Daily productivity depends highly on rest and sleep. Get the sleep you deserve. See your ENT doctor now and rid yourself of that bad nocturnal habit.

We'd like to hear from you!

Text us your answers to the following questions at 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and get a chance to win a Pfizer gift pack!

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2. Have you visited an ENT doctor for this? Y N

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Example: PFI ENT 5 YN Paul Reyes 8 Macopa St., Project 7, Q.C.

Join now and win a special Pfizer gift pack! Lucky texters can get the chance of winning free samples!

Note: Make sure to indicate your complete address for the sending of the Pfizer gift pack.

Should you have any questions about ENT or comments regarding this column, please email to Pfizer ENT (bactidol@pfizer.com). You can also text 0917-8PFIZER (0917-8734937) or 0918-9PFIZER (0918-9734937) and type in PFI (space), ENT (space), your question or comment.

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A health update from the throat care experts, PSO-HNS and Bactidol.

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THE OFFICIAL GUIDE TO WORLD DOMINATION
Php100
making of
Apocalyse Now
by Deirdre McKay

Unlikely troika on mag's cover

APART from being members of the House of Representatives and having lives shaped by martial law, what do Imee Marcos, Satur Ocampo and Teddy Boy Locsin have in common?

The three share the cover of Jessica Zafra's Flip magazine. A profile of Ocampo, a former rebel leader jailed by Ferdinand Marcos, appears back-to-back with a no-holds-barred feature on Imee, Marcos' eldest daughter.

Locsin having fun at The Peninsula Manila joins the other two in the magazine.

Flip is published and edited by columnist, author and television host Zafra. Call 750-3755 or e-mail flap@flip.com.ph.

Young devotees visit Our Mother of Sorrows chapel in Batong Paluay

BATONG Paluay was once a sleepy barrio one and half kilometers away from San Andres town in Catanduanes.

Three years ago, hundreds of youths from Virac walked 21½ kilometers to reach the chapel of Our Mother of Sorrows or "Dolorosa" in Batong Paluay.

Sheer energy and a burning love for the Virgin Mother are what drove these young people to walk all the way to the chapel. They came to ask for help in their studies, say thank you for passing their exams, and pray for their loved ones.

But it is not only the youth who come but people from all walks of life: mothers carrying their babies, fathers holding their children, single men and women, and old people. They all have something to tell the Virgin whose icon dominates the main altar of the chapel.

Nicanor Solmerano, the caretaker, says that people specially come on Good Friday. Barangay chair Juan Manlangit told us that there were plenty of people by 10 p.m. of Holy Thursday and the youth still had to arrive. By 12 midnight, they came joining throngs of people praying to the Virgin.

I arrived in Virac the day before via Asian Spirit and was able to go to Batong Paluay with my friends Ted Arcilla and Myshelle Tan through the kindness of Mayor Joseph Cua, who lent us his car.

People were lighting candles at the left entrance of the chapel, while others stayed at the pews to pray. We prayed for those who asked us to pray for them. We lined up to pray to the "Dolorosa" and touch her face.

Reaching Batong Paluay

The miracle of the icon of the "Dolorosa" was believed to have begun during Spanish times. Imprinted on stone, the icon was found on a *kamias* tree. It was only the size of a thumb. Rosita Santalices Pascual, 85, with whom I stayed, told me that the icon started to grow until the whole face appeared.

Tita Rosing also told me the story of a woman who walked around the barrio begging for materials to build her *nipa* hut. When the people brought them to the place she mentioned, they found the icon at the altar looked just like her.

Through the donations of barrio folk, devotees who come and the Association of Batong Paluay based in Metro Manila, the *nipa* hut was eventually transformed into a cement chapel. Masses are held at 7 a.m. and 5 p.m. on the First Friday of the month, while a 5 p.m. Mass is celebrated on other Fridays. Juan Manlangit told me that the land where the chapel stood was donated by the Nicolas Vargas family.

How to reach Virac

Take Asian Spirit's direct flight from Manila that leaves at 6:15 a.m. Or take a bus to Tobaco Port in Cubao or Pasay. Ride either the M/V Eugenia or Star Ferry. Travel time to San Andres Port is 3½ hours. Motored tricycles can bring you to Batong Paluay from San Andres.

While in San Andres, where there is a Paradise Hotel, explore the 403-year-old Church of San Andres, the town's patron. Parish priest is Fr. Edison Bernardo.

I was blessed to have been able to attend the Holy Thursday rituals with the choir, led by Boy Collantes, singing beautifully during the Half-Mass. Noli Rodrigueza did the altar of repose (a promise that he fulfills every year after he got well from a stroke 10 years ago). I walked in front of the *carroza* of Sta. Cleofe with Dr. Luz Arcilla Bancosta who created the saint's dress.

Live 'kalbaryo'

The town of San Andres takes its Good Friday observance seriously. The people built scenes from the Passion and Death of Jesus Christ in some corners of the town. When the procession passed by, it felt good to be part of this reenactment. We met Ramon Sanchez, who used to play Christ. His son portrays the role now. We also met Yoly Santalices Monjarde, whose family brought out the "Santo Entierro."

Family tradition

Ascension falls on June 1. It has been the tradition of the Santelices family to bring out their image of the Lord of the Ascension. The tradition began with Pelagio and Fortunata Santelices, parents of Rosita Santalices Pascual. They had 14 children: 10 girls and 4 boys.

Tita Rosing said the family and their relatives take turns in bringing out the image every Ascension Day for Holy Mass and procession. This year, Felicitas Aldave Gianan is the *hermana*. Rosemarie Lorica, a grand niece of Tita Rosing, always goes home on Ascension Day.

To make it faster for people to reach San Andres, Mayor Cua will launch the bus line of the route Manila-San Andres-Manila at the end of the month through Regina Shipping Lines.

Miracles of Bambino

Devotees who go to Naic on the first of May have different reasons in visiting the place. Some go to pray for favors; while others say thank you. Miracles have been done by the Bambino de Araceoli, according to Tess Jasmin, who works for Filipino Paradise Complex, where the chapel of the Bambino is located.

A woman from Quezon City was able to conceive a child after many years.

An amateur golfer stayed at the chapel for one night and prayed. He was able to win in the "hole in one" competition and bagged a Spacewagon.

A niece of Enrique Echauz, son of Dr. Romeo Echauz, was suspected of having cancer from a birthmark behind her ear. She was scheduled for surgery, but after praying to the Bambino, she was cured of cancer.

A Mass and *karakol* will take place at 2 p.m. on May 1 at Filipino Paradise Complex, Barrio Sabang, Naic, Cavite.

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

Divine Mercy feast

Today is the feast of the Divine Mercy. The national shrine in Sta. Rosa, Marilao, Bulacan, will be full of people by 5 a.m. An altar has been built in the middle of a wide open area that can fill thousands of people. Fr. Vic Robles, the charismatic rector of the shrine, was able to build a church, a rectory, the 15 mysteries of the Rosary, a religious store and chapels in a place where there was nothing. He was able to do this through the help of many people who believe in the power of Jesus, the Divine Mercy.

The last time I saw Father Vic, he told me about a boy who was knocked down by a car. The distraught mother called Father Vic who came with an icon of the Divine Mercy. He held the icon high on the boy who was in a coma. Miracle of miracles, the boy lived and is well to this day.

The Archdiocesan Shrine of the Divine Mercy in Mandaluyong plans to put up a billboard of the Divine Mercy along Edsa in the Guadalupe area.

Masses on April 27 are as follows: 7 a.m., 9 a.m., 12 nn, 3 p.m., 4:30 p.m., 6 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Bishop Gabriel Reyes will say Mass at 7 a.m. and will be telecast live on NBN 4.

Divine Mercy's promise

The Lord Jesus of the Divine Mercy appeared to Sister Faustina and told her to paint an image of Himself with the signature: Jesus, I trust in You."

And then he said: "I promise that the soul who will venerate this image will not perish. I also promise victory over enemies already here on earth, especially at the hour of death. I myself will defend it as my own glory."

My friend Eddie Marfori reminded me that on the feast of the Divine Mercy, one should go to Confession and Holy Communion. It is part of a promise that those who do so will not perish without receiving the Last Sacraments.

The miracle of the icon of the 'Dolorosa' is believed to have begun during Spanish times

NUESTRA Señora de Dolorosa in Batong Paluay, Catanduanes

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PAOLO Bediones, Jackie Castillejo, Marc Nelson and friends

PARTYING HARD. Kit Baraga, Rovilson Ferna Rodriguez and Drunken Monkey winner Alan

IN THE KNOW

A marvelous, moveable feast

By Delia Dans
Contributor

WITH every inch of me refreshed, restored and thoroughly pampered, thanks to a trip to Bali, I am back to my old haunts and habits. First off was an event that made me want to get down and dance! This was of course, schatzis, at the launch of—to borrow Super Club's exact phrase—every clubber's fantasy.

Well, so there I was, one of the privileged few at the very first appearance of the Super Club. Super Club is partly the brainchild of Zed, which gives me ringtones, downloads, instant information and such thrills on my Sony Ericsson P800.

I'm told that the Zed Super Club is both a virtual club and a mobile party, which means the Super Club parties anywhere. Sort of like those spontaneous mass gatherings in Paris.

There I was, experiencing two different beats at two different locations (though next door to each other). That hip Japanese place, Kai, and my friend Elbert's Restaurant 12 both hosted the Super Club launch. How's that for being in two places at one party?

Hunks and showbiz types

That young, handsome hunk of a DJ, Jon Herrera, aka Johnny Verse, radiates such charm he should be a movie star. He kept the crowd in high spirits the entire night! Jon and his equally adept partner, Robbie Sanchez, spun and mixed their melange of hip-hop and house music like there was no tomorrow. People simply refused to go home even when the restos were closing down. We simply took the party to the streets.

Dolphy and the lovely **Zsa Zsa Padilla**—or Zashay, as we close friends call her—added clout to the event. K and K—"Morning Girls" hosts **Kris Aquino** and **Korina Sanchez**—were definitely glitz barometers, as were ooh-la-la **Piolo Pascual** and classy **Ces Drilon** with hubby **Rock**, **Trish** and **Philip Cu-Unjieng**, Kai owners **Rikki** and **Beng Dee** and Restaurant 12 manager **Elbert Cuenca** and wife **Liza**, Luxasia's **Mia Cuenca** and **April Marquez** , from Nivea, **Belle Ortega** and **Rica King** (who brought her handsome hubby **Wilson**).

Since my arrival, schatzis, I've made many friends in the corporate world. Though we've only met, I like **Vivian Sarabia** of the famed optical shop. Of course, there was my favorite group of zany furniture people, the Pineapple gang: **Leah Puyat**, **Angelette Calero**, **Eds Genuino** and **Anton Baretto**. Also there were the übermensch of Smart, **Boy Martirez** and wife **Marilu**; and **Domino Alfafara**, also from Smart; **Ben Reyes**, Zed's very own marketing director and **Jojit Alcazar**, Zed's marketing communications guru.

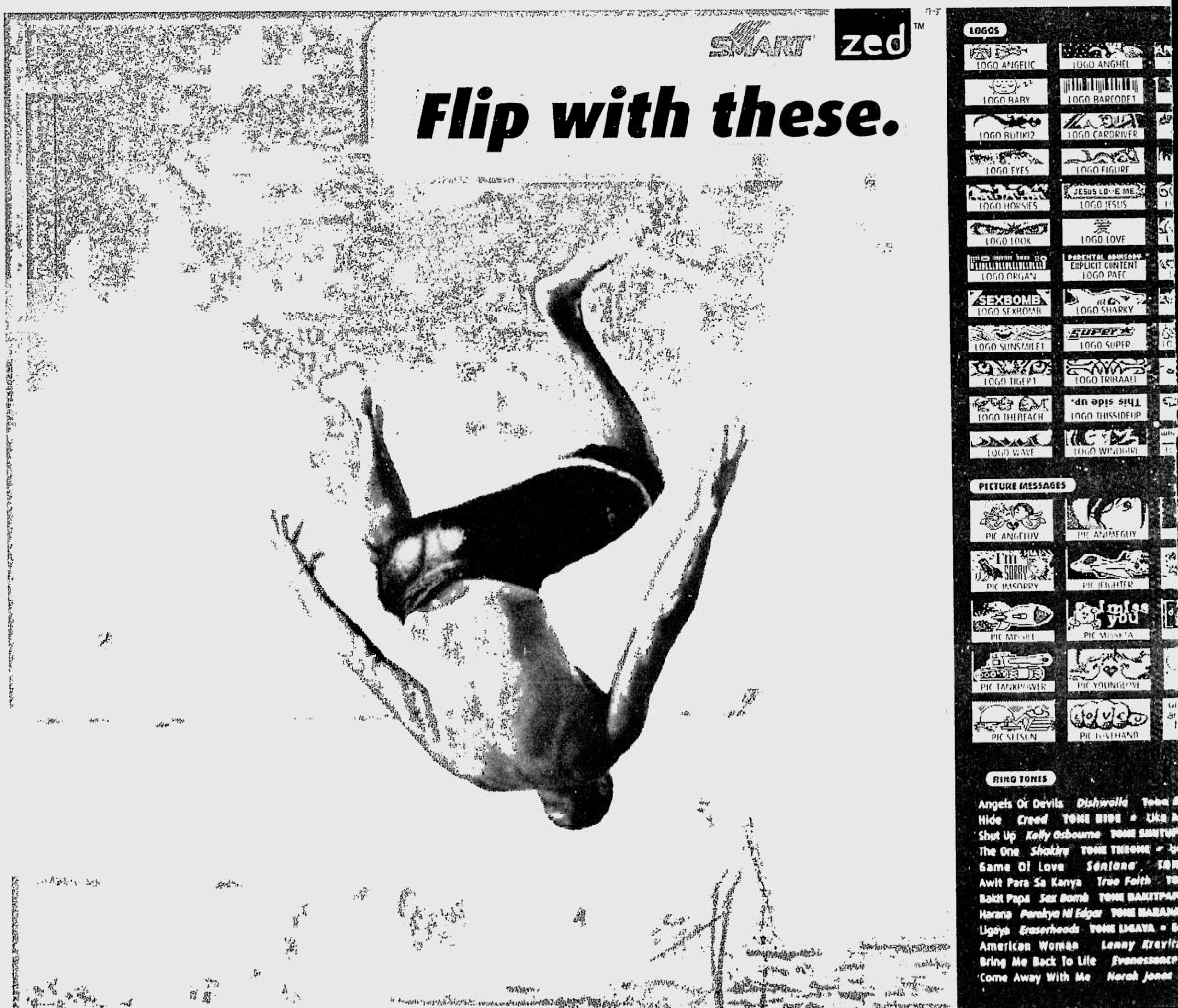
MODELS Paolo Paraiso, Bianca Valerio and Mikee Carreon

Oh, and there were Super Club's creative and visuals team, skinhead brothers by choice, **Mon Punzalan** and **Jowee Alviar**.

Dozens more shiny, happy people partied with me, liebschens: Chalk Magazine's **Romina Urra** and significant other **Monchu Gonzalez**; and Sen. **Manny Villar**, his wife, Rep. **Cynthia Villar**, such a delightfully strong la-

SUPERCLUB DJ Jon Herrera aka Johnny Verse

JUNIE Rodriguez and Maxine Chua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Ligaya *Eraserheads* TONE LIGAYA
American Woman *Lenny Kravitz*
Bring Me Back To Life *Evanescence*
Come Away With Me *Norah Jones*

Parties get virtual and even more mobile with Super Club

ndez, JM Rover Reyes

DIETHER Ocampo and manager Douglas Quijano

DJ Jessie Suave

BRAD Turvey

JACKIE Yllana and Kit Barraga

dy, and their son Mark.

Top architect **Conrad Onglao** was there with socialite **Susan Reyes**. Likewise **Xander** and **Mons Tantoco**, and yet another Xander—photographer **Xander Angeles**.

Beguiling

I also had a little tète-â-tète with the beguiling **Mariko Jacinto** and New York-based lawyer **Tunting Cruz**. Oh, and **Max Chua**—how can she stay so slim!—and I talked about the jewelry pieces she has been designing. I also chatted up a storm with several restaurateurs: the great **Louie Y** and wife **Cecille**; **EJ** and **Tess Litton**; **Manolet Dario**; **Marcel Crespo** of Wherelse; Rock Star's **Miko Palanca** and **Jojo Manlongat**. Then there were my fave shutterbug-slash-party-person **Pepper Teehankee** and EMI exec **Twinkle Lagdameo**; **Victor Consunji**, **Jackie Yllana**, **Andrea Mercado** and **Tina Tinio**.

Natch, schatzis, a shindig of this caliber should not be lacking in star power: *ma chère* **Vina Morales**; heartthrob **Dingdong Dantes**; **Rufa Mae Quinto**, who was amazingly funny; **Jaya**, she of the golden voicebox; **Sarah Meier** (another of those effortlessly slim ones); the Circean **Pops Fernandez** ; and the scrumptious **Brad Turvey**. There were also **Eric Quizon**, **JM Rodriguez**, **Illac Diaz**, **Ricky Davao** and TV host **Paolo Bediones**.

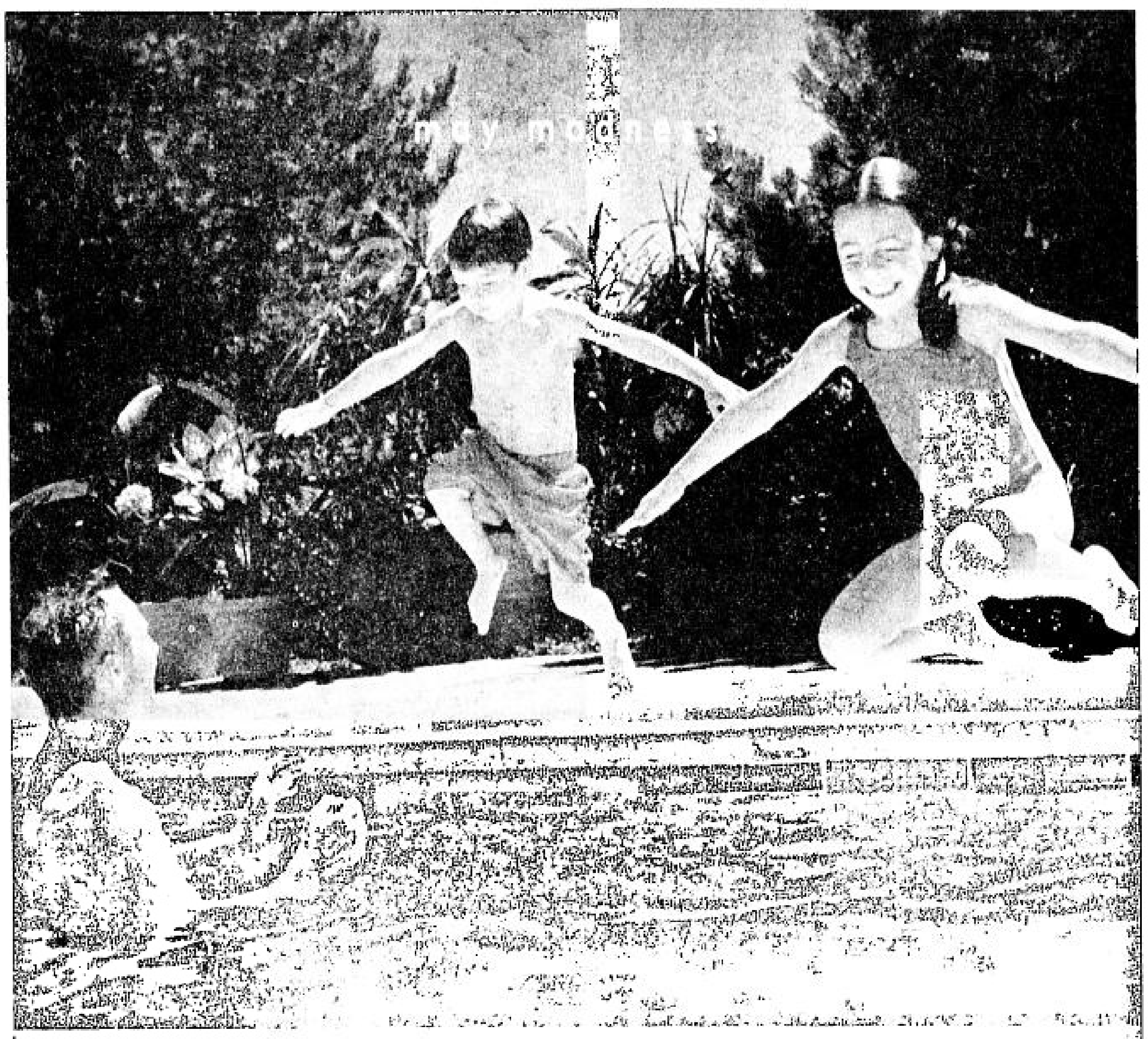
Of course, liebschens, the fashion world could never go unrepresented. So from the designers to the ramp walkers, the fashionable movers and shakers shook their groove thong! Present were designers **Tonichi Nocom**, **Randy Ortiz** and **Vic Barba**; stylist **Rosario Herrera** (sister of that soon-to-be superstar DJ Jon); and models galore: **Paolo Paraiso**, **Ryan Villareal**, **Jack de Mesa**, **Rachel Soriano**, **Phoemela Baranda**, **Mickey Carrion**, **Kit Baraga**, **Bianca de los Santos**, **Luke Jickane**, **Carlo Gonzales**, **Chema Marquez** and **Tweetie De Leon** (with husband **Mon Gonzalez**).

Ah, liebschens, you know I pride myself with the company I keep and I must say, I keep the most marvelous company!

A week after its launch in Kai and 12, Super Club showed up in my all-time favorite party place, Boracay.

Having the second Super Club officially opening summer was a brilliant idea. The summer place was packed and my absolute fave DJ Johnny Verse spun out all night, together with cohorts **Robbie Sanchez** and **Allan Reyes**.

Natch, man does not party alone. We all had this euphoric spirit, what with the waves lapping on the powdered shore, and Super Club's music bringing us to a higher groove. Pardon my poetic cheesiness, dearies, but Boracay does that to me.



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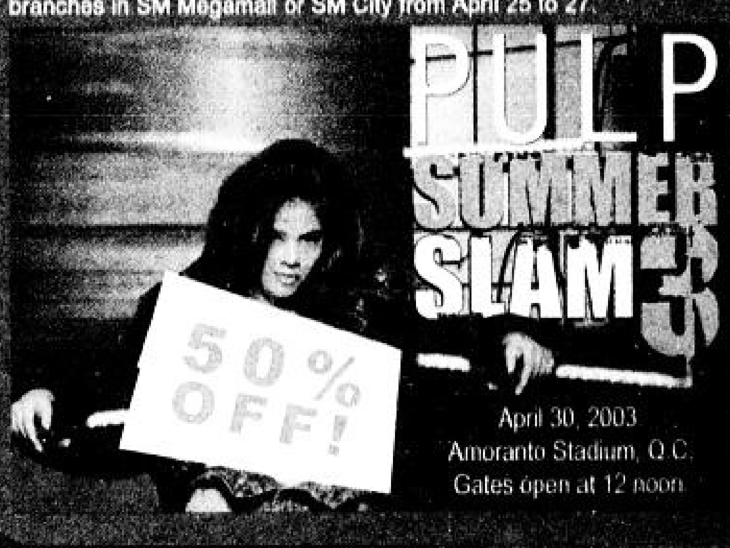

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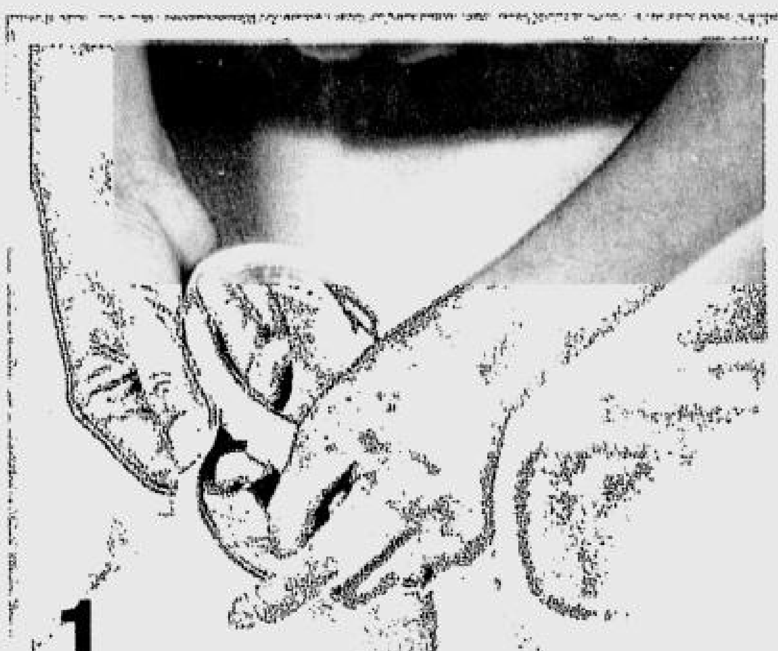
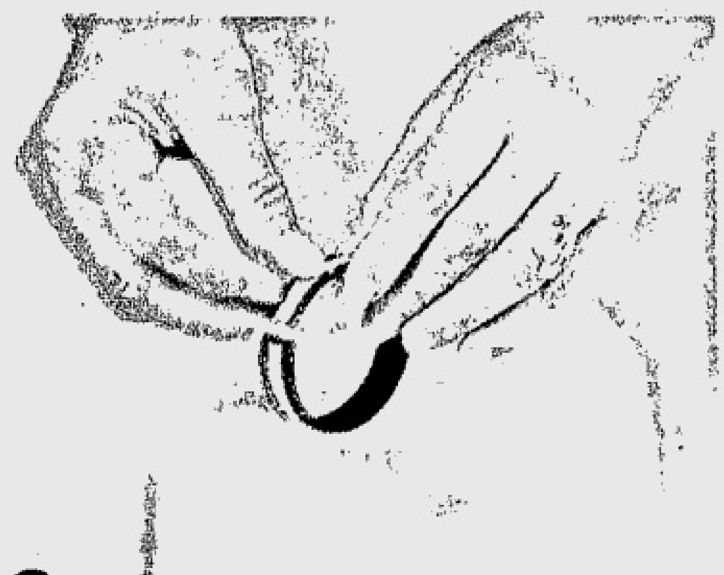


1

PLACE a double adhesive tape on the bangle. Then remove the thin cover of the adhesive tape. Roll bangle over glitters.



2

DESIGN the second layer by placing another narrow double adhesive tape on top of the glittered bangle.

3

REMOVE the cover of the second layer of double adhesive tape.

BEAUTIFUL and exciting accessories made of glitters and beads

Beads for bonding

Text by Vangie Baga-Reyes
Photos by Jim Guiao Punzalan

CRAFTS

HEY, moms, how would you like to bond with your daughters with this easy-to-do craft that makes use of beads and glitters in different eye-catching colors? Embellish your personal accessories like headbands and bangles with microfine beads and glitters and get noticed for your creativity!

"The great thing about this craft is there's no fuss, no mess, no splatter to worry about and deal with because the materials can be put in just one container," says Zeny Perez of Craft World in Robinsons Galleria (tel. 634-5882).

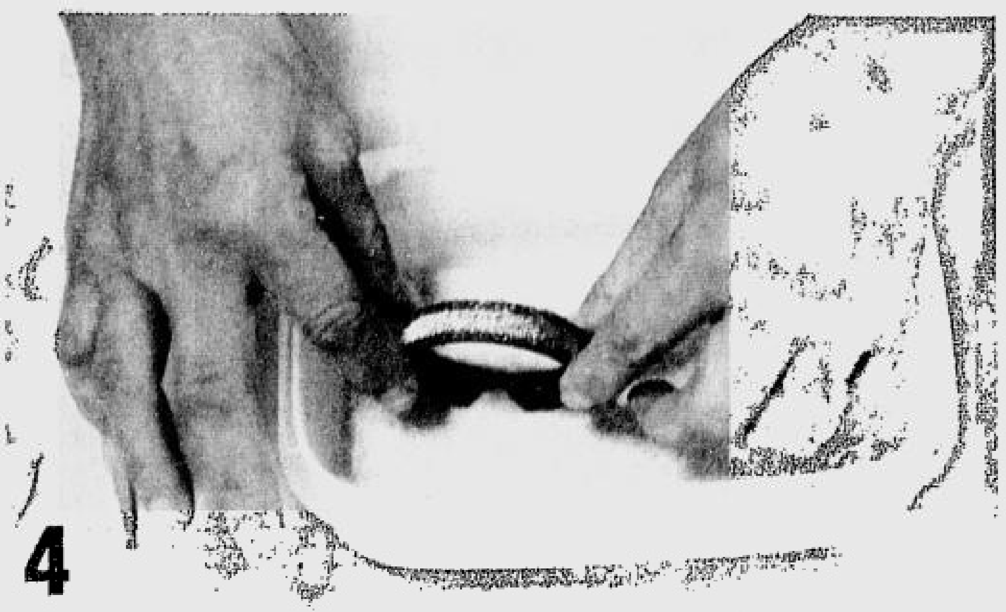
This craft is easy to make and can be done in a jiff. Making an attractive bangle, for instance, is as easy as one-two-three: Place adhesive tapes on the bangle, roll bangle over glitters and wear whenever you desire!

You can make unlimited designs, colors and shapes, which can be then turned into a multitude of useful items such as jewelry, pens, earrings, hanging décor or picture frames. This is fun for one child or a group of kids.

"This activity can be done by a child with the parents. This helps kids focus their attention and provide creative outlets."

Materials for this project include double adhesive tapes in different sizes, microfine beads and glitters in different shapes, colors and sizes available at Craft World, a pair of scissors and clothing accessories such as a plastic headbands or bangles or any accessories like ball pen, empty boxes and picture frame.

For suggestions, e-mail the author at vbaga@inquirer.com.ph



4

ROLL it over the beads and shake off excess beads.

Glittering up your fashion accessories is as easy as 1-2-3

Earn from your sewing hobby

HOMEMAKERS and stay-home mommies can earn extra money this summer by turning your sewing hobby into a small business. You can use the money for your child's tuition in June or out-of-town summer trips to strengthen family ties. Below are practical projects that you can try at home. With determination, creativity and a Singer sewing machine, nothing is impossible!

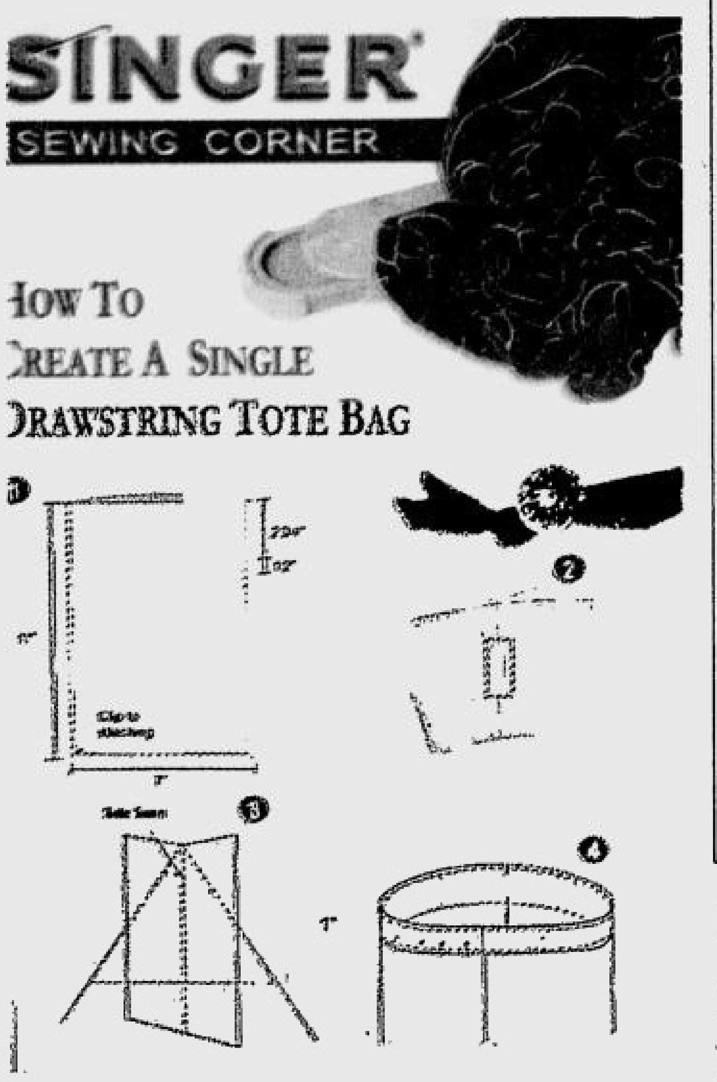
Repair. If you are confident of your sewing skills, you can offer mending services in your neighborhood. Put up a sign at your gate or distribute flyers in your community to advertise your service. You can go beyond repairing and patching clothes and start making simple blouses and skirts that you can sell.

Personalize. Go beyond emblazoned nicknames. Ask your client to draw up a list of her favorite things, then incorporate these in the design. There are many items that can be personalized: pillowcases, towels, cellular cases, bags, scarves, aprons, T-shirts.

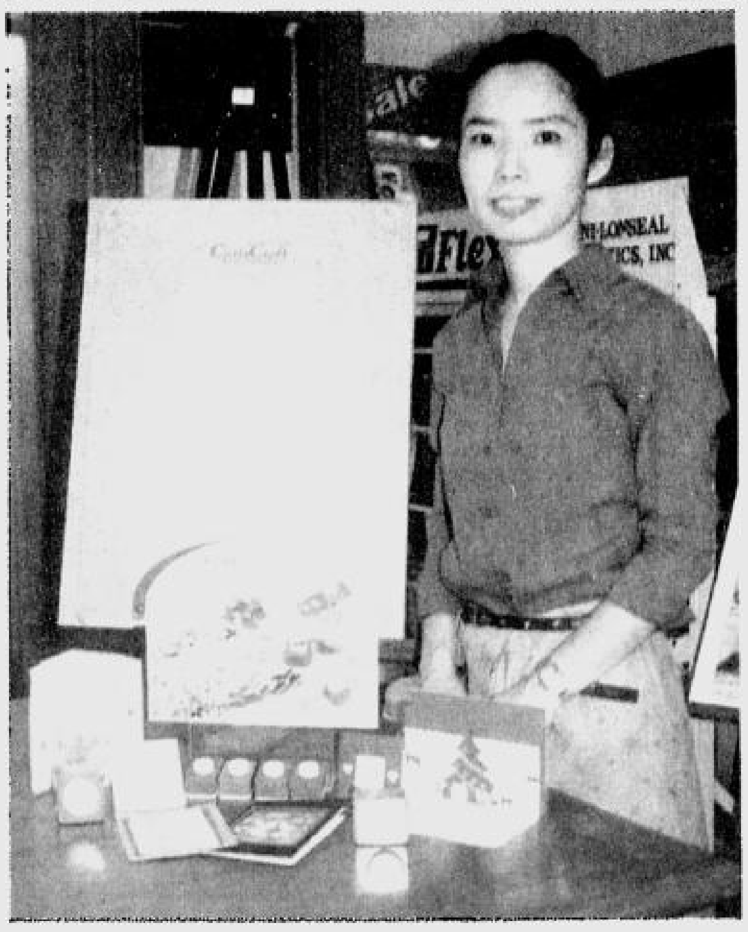
Make bags. Flea markets are a good place to sell affordable bags. Recycle old garments by sewing together patches with interesting patterns, and add details like buttons, beads and fringes.

Sell stuffed items. Create alphabet pillows and little stuffed dolls or animals. The stuffed items will make cute bed and desk accents or educational toys. You can test the marketability of your product by observing and asking your own kids what item appeals to them most.

Visit the Singer showroom nearest you or call the hotline at 1-800-100-SINGER (746437) if you're calling outside Manila, and 527-9958 within Manila. Singer gives free sewing lessons for every purchase of a sewing machine.



Craft workshops for kids



NATIONAL Book Store in Alabang held recently an art demonstration on how to turn simple cards, photo albums and other craft projects into captivating works of art.

The event introduced new and versatile products from CarlaCraft, creator of Carl Craft Punch. The products included craft punchers, embossers, scissors and others.

Kimiko Kozutsumi of Carl Manufacturing Corp., the makers of CarlaCraft products, conducted the demonstrations.

NBS and Carl Manufacturing will hold more craft demos/workshops: today at NBS Shangri-La; April 27 at NBS Alabang; May 3 at NBS Glorietta; and May 10 at NBS Quezon Avenue.

Registration is until May 10, 2-4 p.m. Participants should be 13 years old and above, and must have purchased at least one CarlCraft or CarlaCraft item.

Kids' kitchen camp

LOOKING for a fun yet productive way for your kids to spend the summer? Enroll them in this year's Kids' Kitchen Camp organized by the San Miguel Purefoods Culinary Center.

The camp is open to kids 8-13 years old who are interested in learning cooking and baking. Sessions for the second group will be held April 29-30 and May 2; and for the third group, May 6-8, 1-4 p.m. at San Miguel Purefoods Culinary Center in Legazpi corner Eagle Streets, Barrio Ugong, Pasig City. Fee is P1,300 for the entire course.

Call 671-9876 local 402, 405 or 259.

Orphans get an afternoon of fun

TWO big names in entertainment, Timezone Family Entertainment Center and Joey Rhythms 92.3 FM, organized recently fun activities for about 60 kids from the Angel's Home and Alay Pag-asa foster homes.

The Joey Cares Handog sa Batang Pilipino brought the kids—orphans and physically and emotionally abused—to Timezone in Glorietta 4 for an afternoon of free games.

Some of the kids danced at the Dance Revo machine, while others played the Funny Fish, winning tickets they could trade for pencils or pool sets.

The F355 Challenge, on the other hand, provided infinite fun for four kids at a time, who sped together to the finish line. The Rapid River, however, was the crowd favorite.

Timezone branches are at Glorietta 4, Glorietta 2, Alabang Town Center, Greenbelt 1 and 3, Starmall, Metropoint, Greenhills and now on the LG/F SM Megamall.

HOME THEATER SYSTEMS SALE

Take advantage of the special home theater systems sale at all AVSurfer branches until April 30. This means price cuts on all home theater systems including award-winning brands like Definitive Technology, Klipsch, NAD and Sherwood. AVSurfer has also prepared two special packages on exciting home theater systems with substantial discounts and 0-percent rates on 12-month payment terms. AVSurfer branches are located at Alabang Town Center, Rockwell Power Plant, Ayala Cebu, Ali Mall, Robinsons Galleria, Robinsons Imus, Robinsons Metro East, Robinsons San Fernando and Abanao Square-Baguio. Call 525-2215.

Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome has hogged the headlines for weeks, raising questions as to what we can actually do to fight it. The answer was remarkably simple. Keep yourself healthy. Now, more than ever, vitamins have never been so important.

GET MORE DEFENSE AGAINST SARS.

BENEFITS OF VITAMIN C

Vitamin C plays an important role in building our bodies' immunity.

- It inhibits the growth of viruses and is therefore crucial in the treatment of viral diseases.
- It stimulates macrophage functions.
- It increases the activity of natural killer (NK) cells.
- It enhances a host of bodily functions which enable our bodies to fight viral diseases and infections.*

BENEFITS OF B - COMPLEX VITAMIN

Helps maintain a healthy level of antibodies.

Maintains a healthy immune system by preventing deficiencies.

Releases energy that gives added strength to our immunity to sickness.

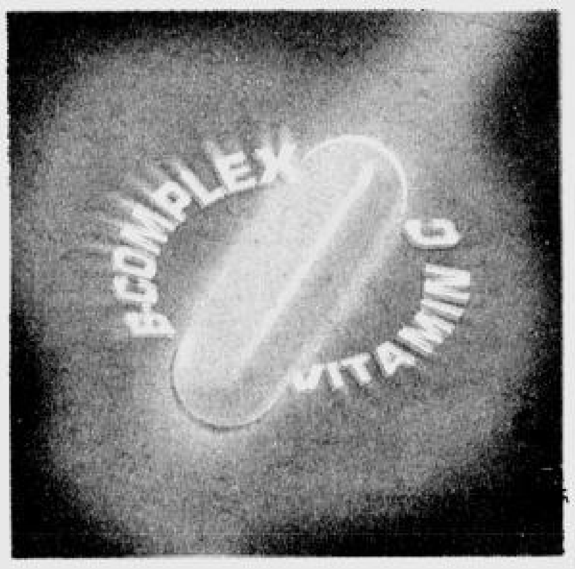
** from article by M.P. Macapinlac, M.D., Ph.D.*

THE DOUBLE ADVANTAGE OF ENERVON TO HELP FIGHT THE VIRUS

Vitamin C (Anti-Infection)

+ Vitamin B-Complex (Produces Antibodies/ Helps Release Energy)

Better Defense Against SARS



Vitamin C and a full complement of the B - Complex vitamins provide essential metabolic elements needed for the proper utilization of carbohydrates, proteins and fats – the three main sources of energy.

A steady supply of energy is crucial as lack of this could impair our immune function.

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BE SAFER FROM SARS: BOOST YOUR IMMUNITY

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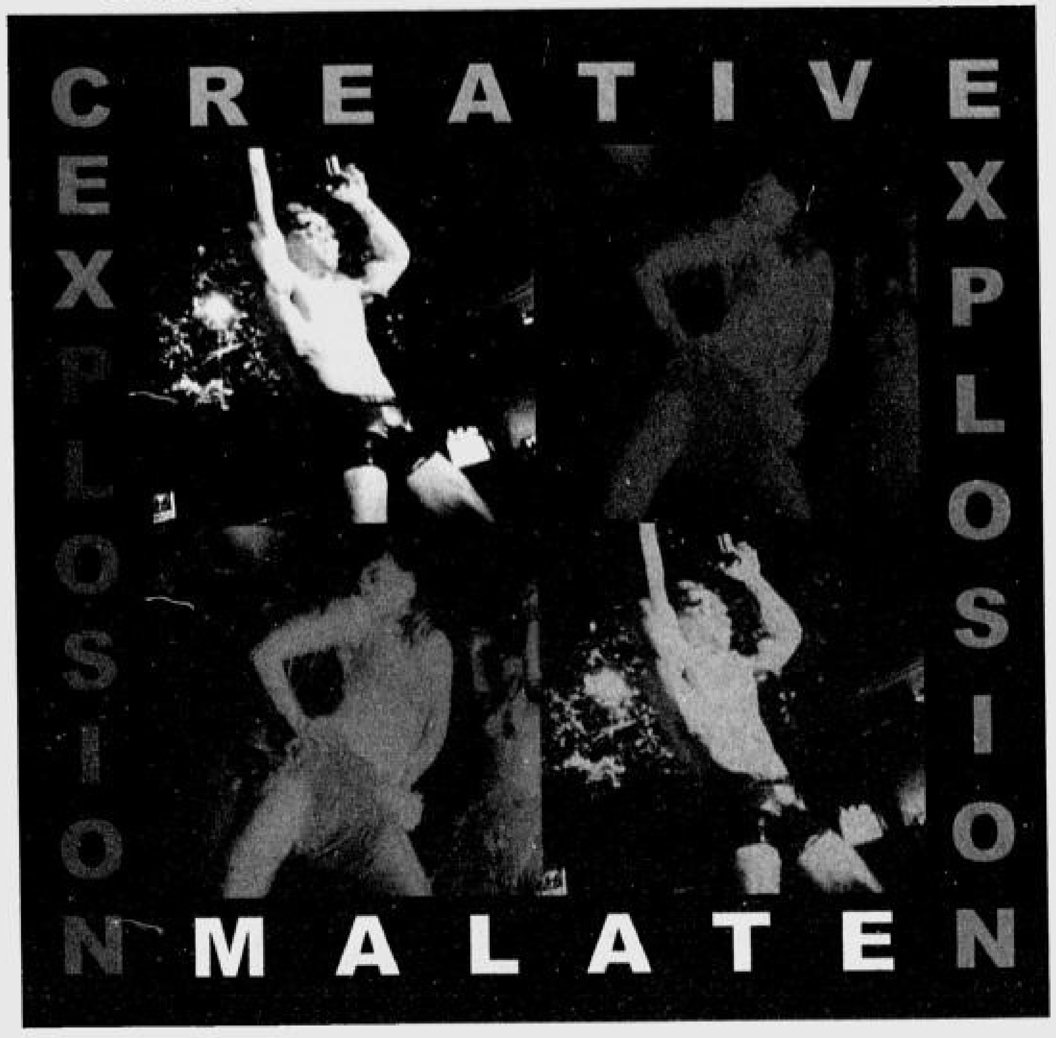

METRO MANILA'S CREATIVE QUARTER

The Orosa-Nakpil collective, a thriving commune of nightlife establishments, proves once more that it can offer something other than the newest 'mallified' shopping center experience, Markus Schmidt exclaims!

Kenkoy, named after the laid-back, mischievous mascot of Filipino Komiks fame and one of the newest additions to the Malate night scene, is perhaps a fitting tribute to the quarter's legendary irreverence.

In the late '70s, when the disco fever was only a faint echo of Studio 54, Coco Banana was already making waves in the high society scene as the place to be seen in. When everybody was still into disco nights in the early '80s, Penguin Café near the Remedios Circle was already playing New Wave music, then alien to all but the hippest Euro-music trend watchers.

Now Malate has again come full circle, offering an eclectic mix of bars, cafés, lounges and restaurants that defy the rules of a metropolis accustomed to hanging out in rigidly planned, intensively market-researched malls.

Go to the corner of Orosa and Nakpil streets and you will find the likes of Fidel, a Moroccan-inspired café-restaurant that is setting the pace in design and style in the area. As you turn another corner beyond Fidel, you are greeted by the Pinoy Pop-Lichtenstein amalgam-inspired bar that is Komiks. Let your eye rove and you spot Bargo, a decidedly de-styled, not-so-fancy addition to the Malate mélange.

All this is, again, part of an unplanned brew of establishments that have found their own place in the neighborhood.

This organic brew is part of Malate's charm. The quarter's key citizens, establishment proprietors such as DJ Montano, owner of the Indian restaurant Raj, liquid lounge Acquario and the just-opened Courtyard Cuisine Chinoise, swear to the depth of Malate's persona.

"The key to Malate's charm is the amount of freedom it gives to the establishments that have sprung up [in it]," says Montano between sips of coffee.

Paradoxically, many say that the real secret behind the stylishness of Malate is that it does not follow any particular style, or trend for that matter. Rather, it sets trends by borrowing from, and improvising on, the experiences of its globe-trotting shop proprietors.

Colin Mackay's strongly themed restaurants such as Sala, People's Palace, and the newly opened Mamma, are all inspired by intuitive notions of what the neighborhood needs in terms of dining and entertainment. They took off because they did not follow any trend or fad.

The ever-present ingredients, it seems, behind Malate's resilience, are the artists and bohemians who have given the district's nightlife its quaint character. Indeed, Malate can outscore every other destination in Metro Manila in terms of capacity to draw arty types—advertising's creative minds, interior designers, fashion designers, architects, painters, actors—you name them, they're in Malate.

One asks why this is so, and the answer is almost unanimous: Because in Malate, you can be yourself. Whether you are part of the chi-chi or the hoi polloi, Malate has, it seems by decree, always something to offer.

And the depth of its character goes beyond the nightlife. It is something you see in the architecture, hear on the streets, and even smell in the cuisine.

Longtime residents often beam with wonder at the architecture, which is reminiscent of the Miami art deco. Old, American era buildings, such as the Michelle and Angela apartments fronting Roxas Boulevard, are the favored residences of designers, actors, painters, politicians and, of course, Malate's establishment owners.

With the richness and easy accessibility of different destinations, it is not surprising that a micro-community of highly productive people has formed in Malate. When one gets tired of the night life, there is Manila's famous sunset to enjoy at the bay.

Ultimately, Malate's fame has grown partly as a result of the continued stratification of the leisure and living destinations in the metro. The Malate of today is, in part, a collective reaction to the monolithic, increasingly corporate and contrived malls that have sprouted up in places like Makati and Ortigas. While beautiful, these places do not have the heritage and richness of character to become living, breathing communities that is at the cutting edge of creativity.

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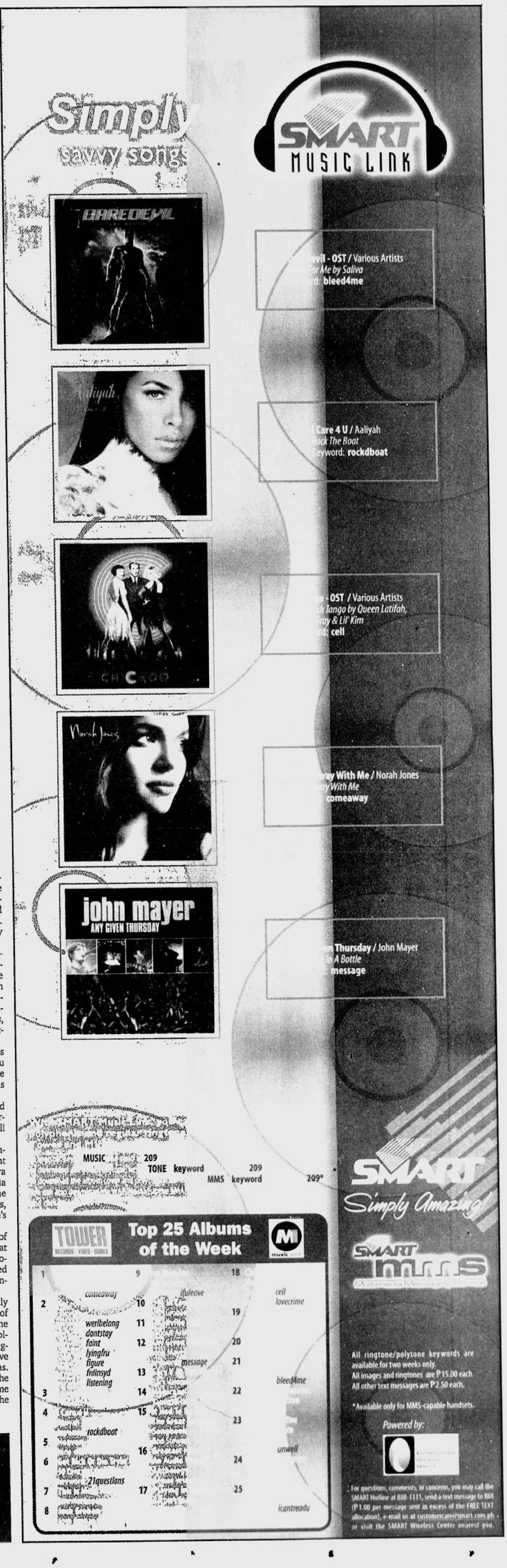

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SALONMALATE

Sonny Zablan gathers four Malate diehards and moderates an informal roundtable

TWO decades ago, you could barely walk down the streets of Malate without being checked out by street walkers and the neighborhood toughie. Boarded-up storefronts and rundown apartments then characterized the seedy Malate neighborhood, despite its rich, historic past.

Today, thugs and hookers still walk those streets. But the Malate of today is far removed from what it was 20 years ago. Walk its streets and you are greeted by chic restaurant cafés and the most cosmopolitan shops. To quote a phrase, the Malate neighborhood is "looking more SoHo than hobo."

In a way, Malate has become a gay and risqué version of a 21st century urban planner's dream: a community where the social fabric is held together not by the coercion of the law, but by the influence of an irreverent, and sometimes, rebellious creative class. A community where the mish-mash of peoples, whether local or newly local, is glued by the notion of life as art, and vice versa. This is reflected in how Malate's bohemian ideology is able to meld seamlessly with the traditionally conflicting notion of free enterprise.

In an informal roundtable discussion, world traveler Sonny Zablan spoke to Markus Schmidt, Colin Mackay and DJ Montano, three of Malate's most influential citizens, about their perspectives of the brow-raising neighborhood. Schmidt, Mackay and Montano are the prime movers of the ON Collective, a collaboration of friends, colleagues and creative types aimed at positioning Malate as a destination which offers an alternative to the generic, commercial destination places in Manila.

Zablan, himself a bohemian-turned-entrepreneur, focused on questions about the Malate nightlife district and what makes it different from the "de-mallified" shopping centers of Makati. Ultimately, the discussion strove to answer the oft-repeated question, "So what is Malate doing right?"

Let's begin by asking: Why Malate? I mean it's rather raw. What is its attraction?

Colin Mackay: When I came to the Philippines and started looking for a place to set up a business, the first place I went to look at was Makati. It seemed that everything centered around malls in Makati. The malls were the focal point of everything. So when I went looking for a sight, I went to the malls. But for me, it didn't seem like the right kind of environment.

Markus Schmidt: So we started looking in and around the smaller streets of Makati. These included the San Lorenzo area, Pasay Road, Jupiter, you know... But they were all so messy and rundown, and there was no real feel to the street.

CM: So we came back to Malate and had a look because of John Glenn. As a group, we were also attending our friend John Glenn's parties in Blue Café. And every time I looked at Makati, I always met some sort of landlord from hell. They were always thinking, how can I make some money out of this? It was like either you gave a whole year in advance, or six months, or all this bullshit. And of course, there were all these things about [rent] escalation. I felt like a kid who was being dragged up to a headmaster.

But when I asked the landlord in Malate, she was clueless (laughter). It was just the rent... And it was much more my style.

DJ Montano: Well, for me there's the business side of it. It's a lot cheaper to open something up in Malate. There are also fewer rules to live with. But essentially, Malate is it because it's got more character and more freedom. Here, you can do whatever you want with your ideas.

So you were here when things were just beginning to heat up?

DM: We weren't the first establishments in Malate, but the first of the so-called new restaurant and design wave. Yes, we're probably the first among the stylized contemporary establishments around Malate.

CM: When I opened there was just Le Soufflé. We had a themed dinner party where we had a menu tacked to the front door asking, what shall I eat? And then we asked them, Sala or Soufflé? Because there was really no other choice.

In terms of design, my restaurant, Sala, was a reaction to all these rundown, seedy bars with the red lights sitting outside and the leaky aircon hanging out the front window beside the creaky aluminum door. We made Sala more approachable with a clean sophisticated look of a modern restaurant dining room. It was not intended to be a stuffy room for power dining. It was really a reaction to the shock I got when I first went to Manila and walked down Ermita.

So when Sala opened, people said "Wow!," we actually made things fresh and clean. It actually changed the concept of what Malate was all about. And it wasn't just Sala, it was also Garlic Rose and Caribana. Caribana said something like, "we want to change your idea of Malate," because they were offering something more conceptualized and focused. Caribana said, "We are a Caribbean restaurant." It wasn't just someplace where you could drink a cold beer. There was always something going on.

MS: If you look at all the establishments set up in the last four or five years, every one has been conceptualized around a very strong theme. And it's not just the look of the place, but the food and whole style of the establishment. People say that here, we've got a lot more passion going on.

So it's really about creative freedom?

DM: Yeah, because if I just wanted the financial reward, I'd put up something in a food court area and make tons of money. But at the end of the day, what else do you have aside from the money?

CM: If you've got a passion for good food and entertainment, you won't really be satisfied with a food court establishment.

DM: I really wanted a place where I could entertain people.

MS: Live our life the way we want to, basically.

CM: You also have to look at the fact that a lot of us are gay. We're theatrical and a little bit flamboyant, and I think it's a reaction to living in the Philippines where very often things are suppressed and conservative. Here, you're not allowed to be really different.

MS: But in Malate, you're allowed to express yourself.

DM: Just like Madonna! (laughs)

MS: When we started Firma, which I think was a very bold move, there was no boutique then in this area. I thought it would be nice to have some night shopping in the area, which has been copied already, by the way. You know, they even built a whole mall around the idea. I don't want to sound arrogant but it's true.

But of course, the difference is that Malate is an organic neighborhood, which is really why we set up here. It grew without a master plan. It grew from the ideas of different individuals with different ways of viewing things.

How would you describe the Malate neighborhood now?

DM: The neighborhood's evolved. When Colin opened Sala five or six years ago, Malate only had one or two good establishments. Now, when you focus on the area around Orosa and Nakpil Streets, you'll see that there are about 10 times more establishments than there were seven or eight years ago. But of course, dozens of establishments have also folded over the years.

And a lot of people ask us, why is it that so many businesses have closed shop in Malate over the years? Our answer is simple. When you look at the proprietors of these failed establishments to begin with, they never really had a good grasp of what it took to operate a food business. Most of these places were owned by *barkadas* who said to themselves, "Hey it'd be fun to run a bar in this place." But they didn't really know about food service and the nitty-gritty of operations. I mean, they had it coming. They were bound to fail to begin with.

CM: It's also because of the fact that Malate's a destination, it's not a place where there's just passing trade. A lot of those who set up businesses here thought that their places would succeed simply because there were a lot of people in the area. They didn't realize that the people who hung out in the street are transient and fickle. They have no loyalty. Whereas those who came here day in and day out knew exactly where they wanted to go.

You really have to market yourself and offer something else, because otherwise, people won't be wasting their time going to Malate when they could just find a drink somewhere in Makati.

So creativity is key to succeeding in Malate?

DM: Creativity in how you maintain loyalty. For instance, you cannot focus on restaurant traffic because we don't have all these office buildings to support the businesses. We cannot think of bringing in 100-150 people every night. Instead, we have to think of bringing in 20-30 loyal customers on a weekday night. That way, we keep on going and still have a little on the side as profit.

People who come here dine. Dining in the sense that they order an aperitif, they have a main course, etc. And we thrive on this type of clientele.

CM: It also helps if you've worked in a number of other food establishments. For instance, I've worked in Australia and other parts of Asia, and when you've gained that passion for eating out, you know how you should be treated when you go to a restaurant. That's why I get exasperated when I go to a mall and I'm served good food, and good wine, but there's no entertainment, no experience whatsoever. Whereas people who go to Sala know that they're going to be entertained because the customers know me and they see me there every day. I mean, how many restaurants do you know where you see the owners serving drinks at the bar in their Pradas and their Guccis?

MS: There should also be a lot of passion. You should never look at a restaurant business just as a money-making thing. If you want to make a lot of money, open a franchise (laughs).

Malate is not known just for its food but for its nightlife. How are your establishments a part of the whole Malate experience?

DM: When I opened Acquario, I had the idea of attracting the hetero crowd to Malate. This I suppose was a reaction to Joy, which was really a gay hangout. It worked for a while. Straight people started coming in, but then other establishments opened up.

MS: And now it's a queen bar! (raucous laughter)

DM: I'm still working on it, but in a way, the difference with Malate is that the establishments, the good ones anyway, seem to have a life of their own.

CM: It also has to do with the kind of people coming in and what you're offering. I must admit that there aren't that many people who like going to a stylish establishment where there's soft music; so what you end up doing is picking the volume up and putting some lights in to make it more accessible to people.

Like with Joy, we had to get a DJ and more lights to make it more clubby, even though it was never meant to be a club.

DM: Same with Acquario. We were playing chill and ambient music in the beginning. Now we play Madonna.

CM: Well I can't really say that we didn't have control over the way our establishments evolved. I controlled it quite well in the first few years and I think I just gave up last year. I mean, we had theme parties like masquerades. I always wanted it to revolve around very strong themes so it doesn't become just a gay bar.

MS: Or just a gimmick!

CM: Oh, I hate that gimmick concept! For instance, a lot of people usually get motivated to go to a bar that has a "Big Night." But I always ask, what is a big night? What the hell is that? It doesn't say anything. Surely, people can be more discerning than that. That's why we have these theme parties.

But do theme parties still work? Don't people usually want to hang out after work?

CM: I think people like to see spectacles still. And they enjoy when they come to Malate and they see it.

MS: I also organize a lot of parties and I've noticed that the moment that the theme is right and you've done a good job at your inviting and direct marketing, it works. Tessa Prieto-Valdes, for example, just wrote about our Chicago party last week, and she liked it and thought it was nice.

So how would you now position Malate with all the competition coming up behind it?

MS: I guess we have to let the rest of the world know what Malate is all about. There are still so many people who think Malate is a red-light district, or a place where you get mugged, or stabbed and murdered. We have to tell people that Malate is no longer the place it was 20 years ago, especially around Orosa and Nakpil streets where most of the establishments are now.

CM: It always helps if you have a passion for your work and the guests and customers feel it. We have to project ourselves as well, simply because our businesses are so personality oriented. People really like the personal touch.

DM: I think we should harp on the fact that you can just go around and get in a restaurant, sit in a lounge and get a drink, and move on after that. The fact that this place has so many different facets to it lends to a complete experience without going through the typical mall door.

So if Malate were a person, who would she be?

DM: Malate's got a lot of history behind her. I mean, we have the centuries-old Malate church, and most of the establishments here are many years old. If I were to relate it to an actress, she would be Sophia Loren, whereas the newer mall centers would be Britney Spears. Sophia Loren may have all these wrinkles and all, but these newbies would not be able to compare with the depth of her character.

CM: Malate for me is a real person I can relate with. She's probably not perfect, but she has the charms and the bad habits I can identify with, not some "perfect, contrived Disneyland" that you enjoy and forget about because the experience conveyed no real meaning to you. Let's face it, Malate's pretty raw, just like the rest of the country's pretty raw. People have all these airs and graces about Malate being so out there and the hang-outs being so glitzy, but outside, the realities of life are there in your face. Its just the same in Makati—cross a few streets from the malls and you have a squatters area. What's so good about Malate is that when you walk the streets here, you know you're in the real world, not something that is contrived in the mind of a faceless urban planner.

MS: I guess that's why we're also very popular with expats and foreigners. They do like the organic, the Old World charms of this area.

I consider Malate real. Confident. Malate, people say, has Old World charm and character, but I think it's also extremely modern. It's extremely loud. It's just a more mature, intelligent place. We don't have "White Men Only" signs. And we don't have dress codes.

MARKUS Schmidt owns the design showcase Firma, a place Asiaweek once called one of the chicest shops in Manila. Firma runs smack in the middle of Malate's nightlife district, a place peppered with hip bars and trendy restaurants. In November of 2001, Markus opened Fidel, a Moroccan-inspired restaurant that has become the de rigueur dining place in Manila. Before becoming what he describes as a suffering artist, Marcus ran an import export business in the Philippines and Hong Kong.

AFTER finishing culinary studies in Switzerland and working at the Ritz Carlton in Barcelona, DJ Montano decided to pack his bags and go back to good old Malate. After managing a number of dining establishments in the famous nightlife district, DJ decided to put up Raj, an Indian restaurant, then the liquid lounge Acquario. DJ's newest culinary venture is the newly opened Courtyard, Cuisine Chinois.

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SALONMALATE

Sonny Zablan gathers four Malate diehards and moderates an informal roundtable

TWO decades ago, you could barely walk down the street of Malate without being checked out by street walkers and the neighborhood toughie. Boarded-up storefronts and rundown apartments then characterized the seedy Malate neighborhood, despite its rich, historic past.

Today, thugs and hookers still walk those streets. But the Malate of today is far removed from what it was 20 years ago. Walk its streets now you are greeted by hip restaurant cafés and the most cosmopolitan shops. To use the phrase ... Malate ... orhood is more than ... way, has be- ... gay and ... version ... t centu- ... n plan- ... dream: community where the social fabric is held together not by the er... of the law, but by the in... ence of an irreverent and ... ime ... rebell... ative ...

A community ... the ...-mash of peoples whether ... or newly local, ... glued ... the notion of life as art, and ... vers ... Th... reflected i... how Malate's bohemian ideology ... able to meld seamlessly with the traditionally conflicting notion of free enterprise ... inform ... , travel... Sonny ... spol... Markus Schmidt ... Mackay, and DJ Montano ... Malate's most influenti... about their perspective ... the brow-raising neighbor... Schmidt, Mackay and Mon... are the prime movers of the ... ON ... lectiv... a collaboration ... friends, colleagues and creative types ... imed at positioning Malate ... a destination which of- ... an alternative to the generic ... commercial destination places ... Manila.

Zablan, himself ... bohemian-turned-entrepreneur ... focused on questions about the Malate nightlife district and what makes ... different from the "de-mall-ified" shopping centers of Maka... Ultimately the discussion stro... answer the oft-repeated ques-tion, "So what is Malate doing right ...

Let's begin by asking: Why Malate? I mean it's rather raw. What is its attraction?

Colin Mackay: When I ... to the ... Philippines and ... looking ... place to set ... business ... place I ... to look at was Makati. It ... that everything centered ... Makati ... The ... f ev... ... looking ... the malls ... like the ... ght ... environment.

Markus Schmidt: So we start ... around the ... Makati. These ... Lorenzo area ... now ... sy an...

rundown, and there was ... real feel to the street.

CM: So we came back to Malate and had a look because of John Glenn. As a group, we were also attending our friend John Glenn's parties in Blue Café. And every time I looked at Makati, I always met some sort of landlord from hell. They were always thinking, how can I make some money out of this? It was like either you gave a whole year in advance, or six months, or all this bullshit. And of course, there were all these things about rent escalation. I felt like a kid who was being dragged up to a h... master.

But ... asked ... landlord ... Malate ... was ... es. (laughter) It was ... the rent. And it was much more ... my style.

DJ Montano: W... for me the... the business side of it. It's cheaper to open something up i... Malate. There are also ... rule ... Bu... essentially, Malate ... b... more ... character ... freedom ... Her... ou... d... want with yo... ide...

So you were here when things were just beginning to heat up?

DM: We ... ere ... the ... lishments ... Malate ... the ... and d... ably the first ... contemporary ... esta... around Mala...

CM: When ... opened ... just ... Soufflé. We ... dinner ... party ... ments ... packed ... Becaus... choic...

In terms ... design ... rant, Sala, wa... reactio... these rundow... seedy ba... the ... ight ... ng outs... the ... ky air ... hanging front window beside the aluminum door. We ma... more approachable ... sophisticated look o... restaurant dining roo... not intended to be a stu... for power dining. It was reaction to the shock I go... first ... Manila ... walked ... Ermita.

So whe... opened, ... said "Wow ... actually things ... clean. It ... changed ... concept ... Malate wa... about. ... wasn't just Sala, it was al... Rose and Caribana. Carib... somethi... change ... id ... of Mal... they ... offer... thing ... concept ... based. Cariban... Caribbean restaurant ... just someplace where ... drink a cold beer. There ... way ... something going on.

MS: If you look at all ... lishments s... up in the ... five years ... every one ... bee...

conceptual ... around ... very strong the ... just the look of the place, but the food and whole style of the establishment. People say that here we've got a lot more passion going on.

So it's really about creative freedom?

DM: Yeah, I ... just wanted the fin... I'd put up something ... food cour... area and make t... money. Bu... at the end of th... that el... you have asid... mon...

CM: If you'... ssion ... a food ...

DM: ...

MS ...

CM: ...

fla... action ... where ... press...

diffe...

MS: ...

DM: ...

MS: ...

...hopp...

But ... that Ma... borhood ... up ...

ffe...

How would you describe the Malate neighborhood now?

DM: ...

of these failed establishments to begin with, they never really had a good grasp of what it took to operate a food business. Most of these places were owned by *barkada* who said to themselves "Hey it'd be fun to run a bar in this place." But they didn't really know about food service and the nitty-gritty of operation. I mean, they had it com-... they were bound to fail to begin ...

CM: ... also because of the fact that Malate's a destination, ... not a place where there's just ... trade. A lot of those who ... businesses here thought ... place would succeed ... ause there were ... The ... people wh... ... those who ... say out kne... wanted to g... have to ma... thing ... people ... to ... come ... M...

So creativity is key to succeeding in Malate?

DM: C...

you know where you see the owners serving drinks at the bar in their Pradas and their Guccis?

MS: There should also be a lot of passion. You should never look at a restaurant business just as a money-making thing. If you want to make a lot of money, open a franchise (laughs).

Malate is not known just for its food but for its nightlife. How are your establishments a part of the whole Malate experience?

DM: When I opened Acquario, I had the idea of attracting the hetero crowd to Malate. This I suppose was a reaction to Joy, which was really ... gay hangout. It ... rk ... for a ... ile ... Straight ... people started coming in, but then other establishments opened up.

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CM: ... with ... ople coming ... offering. I must ad... aren't that man... who like going to a stylish ... ment where there's sof... what you end up doing ... volume up ... ghts in to ... people had ... ough ... ve ... ough ... lu...

DM: ... Acqu... ind ...

CM: ... have ... establishme... and I ... year. I me... like masque... wanted to ... strong themes ... come just ... gay ba...

MS: ... just a gimmick ...

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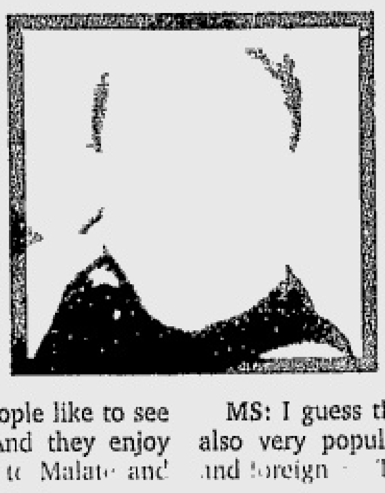

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MS: I at ... I've ... sa Pri... Valc... party ... ast ... and thought ...

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So if Malate were a person, who would she be?

DM: Malate ... is ... behind ... ha... the century ... Malate church ... and most ... establishment ... are ... ve ... but these ... able ... compare ... depth o...

CM: Ma... "pe... jo... th... exp... o real me... Malate ... pretty ... sc... Malate being s... he ... an ... hang outs b... outsid... lities of life ... face. Its just the sa... Makati—cross a few stree... the malls and you have ... ters ... are ... What's so goo... about Malate ... that wh... walk ... streets ... you ... you're ... real wo... somethin... is contr... the mu... faceless ... planne...

MS: I guess that's wh... also very popular with ... and foreign ... M...

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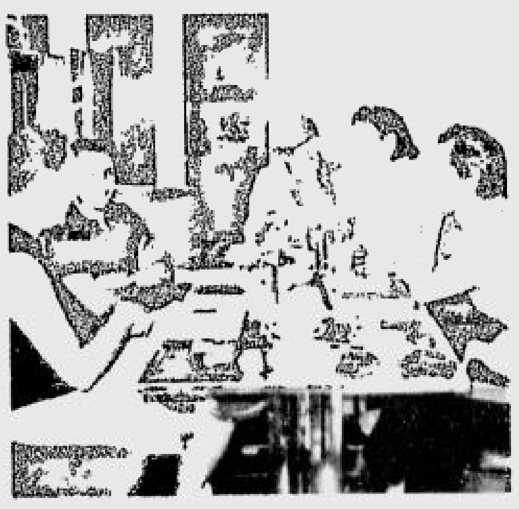

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VINTAGE MALATE

Ino Manalo muses with nostalgia and longing about where glamour slithers into sleaze—and back

WE know that places exist in time and in space. But they also exist in the mind, in the recesses of memory. Malate is one such place. It represents many things to many people.

Malate is a collage of images, some half-remembered, others half-forgotten. There are those whose Malate is a quiet neighborhood of old 1950s houses dozing in the shadows of a past era. To others it is a garish strip of bars, the site of frantic couplings and uncouplings deep into the night. Malate is all of this and much more.

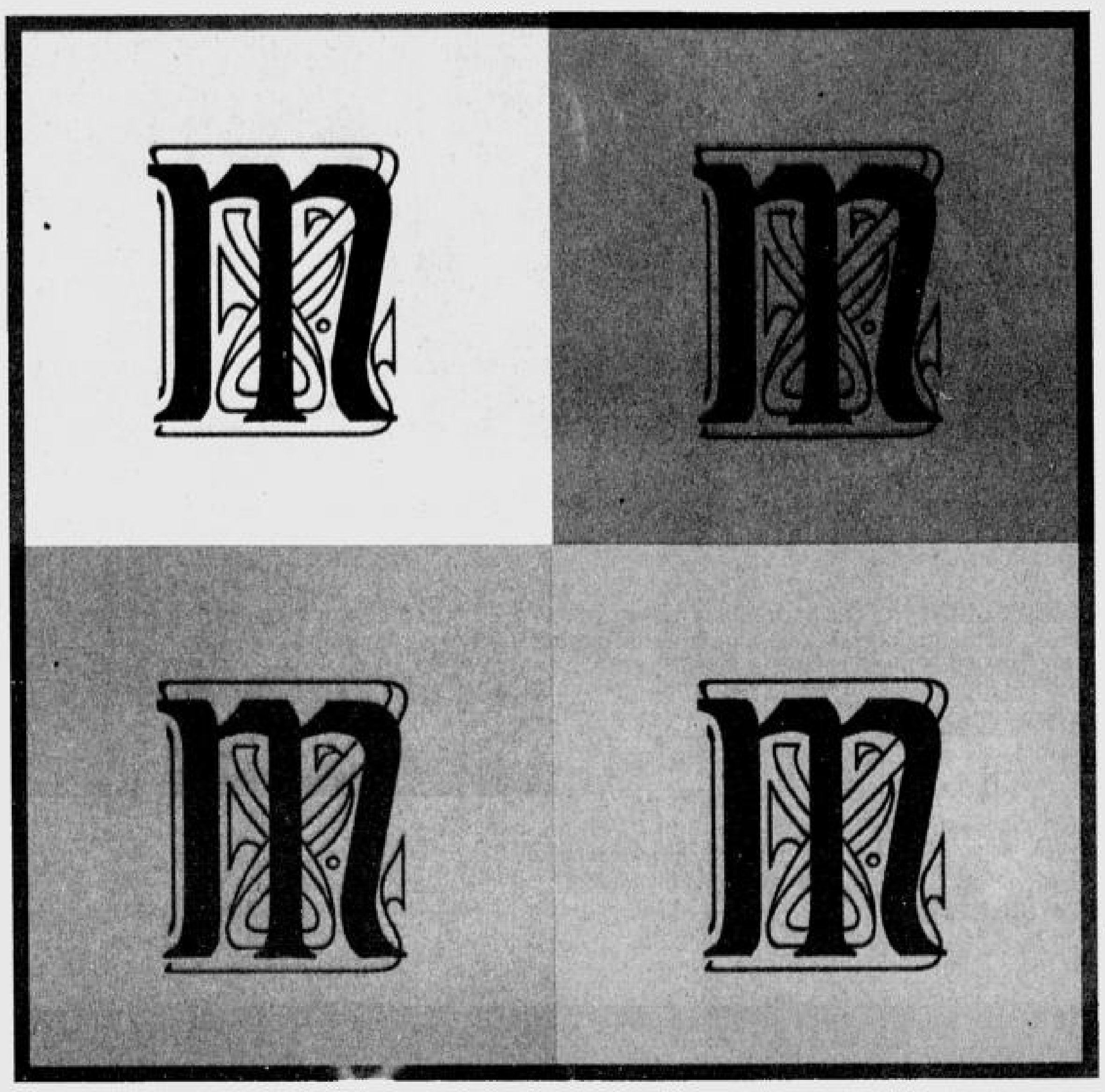
The district started almost as an afterthought, an area that just happened to be near the main settlements of Manila. Its name is supposed to have come from the Tagalog *maalat*, or "salty." This was in reference, perhaps, to the ponds of sea water that would form in the swamplands along the shores of this corner of Manila Bay. It was the site of a church that later became known for housing the statue of Our Lady of Remedies, which was brought in from Spain in 1624.

In the American Period and well into the decades after World War II, Malate was a genteel place filled with genteel people. I recall visiting my cousins on Vasquez street, spending the night and waking up to elaborate breakfasts.

Today one can still see glimpses of gracious homes part Beaux Arts, part Southern plantation. Perhaps what fueled all this gentility was the presence in the area of the country's upper-class schools, among them St. Scholastica, La Salle, Ateneo, Assumption and the University of the Philippines.

It was always one of the treats of my childhood to visit the tree-shaded campus of Assumption (which, strictly speaking, is in Ermita) when everyone still called its location Herran.

I suppose part of my childish fascination derived from the street's name, which, to my mind, always managed to bring up images of the Middle East. Of course, it was later pointed out to me that Assumption's address had nothing to do with the capital of the country beside Iraq. Yet, there was much else that was satisfying about that old campus, from the pleasant old buildings with their flecked walls, the long corridors, the grassy lawns, all evoking an era more sedate and even generous.



The Herran campus is gone now. In its place is another bland mall. But a little of that past grandeur can still be seen in another of Malate's best features: its lovely prewar apartments.

These are the last bastions of a lifestyle of large rooms, wooden floors, quaintly rickety elevators and, most of all, elegantly high ceilings. Syquia, Ramona, Rosaria—the names call to mind a gentler time.

I recall visiting Joey Reyes at his flat in South Syquia Apartments. Though he was only renting, Joey commissioned Jim Tan to go to town with his flat. The result was at once playful and avant-garde. I remember lattice cutouts in geometric shapes. But most of all, I can still vividly remember a large border marking off an alcove. Joey explained that he had installed the border so that when he sat in front of the alcove, his image would be nicely framed for maximum effect. He was right. I still remember Joey's production design.

Perhaps it was the presence of such distinguished interiors that attracted the artsy, creative crowd to Malate. Of this set, the most prominent were the fashion designers. Many of the fashion world's great institutions had their shops in the area. Many of these still live here.

Presumably, the presence of the shops and its clientele insured an audience for another Malate institution: Café Adriatico. These days, cafés with dark wooden interiors, antique tables, old prints are commonplace. But when it opened, Café Adriatico was something to celebrate. In a way it was a distillation of Malate: somewhat tattered yet comfortable like an old book or shoe, distinguished but relaxed, filled with a brash currency rooted in the confidence of tradition. This may be one reason branches of this Malate institution did not succeed in other parts of the city.

In fact, the antiquarian atmosphere of the café was something that its owner, Larry Cruz, cultivated carefully. A friend of mine still speaks of the afternoon he spent with Larry just watching the sunlight fall on a newly painted wall to check if the color was right.

Since the café is open 24 hours, it is where many a night on the town ends over a breakfast of eggs, fried rice and spare ribs. But a past generation will testify that there was a time when such nights began in still another Malate landmark: Ernest Santiago's Coco Banana. Actually, Coco marked many beginnings. It was probably one of the first places in all of Manila that allowed you to dance with your partner of choice and sex. For many then, Coco was the place to finally let yourself go, to break free, to come out, to dance until you sweated.

I recall many anguished hours just finding the nerve to go to Coco. Yet, arriving at the place, there was always that electric charge of anticipation: Who would be there tonight? Who would we see? Who would we meet? I suppose many others shared that feeling for their collective longings suffused the air with an energy both sordid and cleansing. I will never forget sitting on the floor watching the Coco Cats perform a number from "West Side Story" and being so moved by the talent, the force, the sheer audacity that comes from being able to look life in the face.

It is this energy that the present denizens of Malate, the many new cafés, bars and shops, have inherited. For Malate remains the place where squatter houses rise beside restaurants with chic pared-down interiors, where the old is transformed into the cutting edge. It is the place where glamour slithers into sleaze. Perhaps it is this unabashed, unexplained contrast that gives Malate its sting so different from the uniformity of a Makati or a Megamall.

It is the place to dance in the street until the world becomes only the memory of sweat, salty on our tongue... or later, much later, on another's skin.

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RISQUÉ**MALATE**

JR Isaac goes through his ZIP (Zany and Interesting Personality) list and asks 'What turn

I LOOK forward to going to Malate and settling down in my favorite bar Fidel on weekends because I have fun with the shop talk of all the creative people who go there. The progressive attitude sends out good electricity.

RM DE LEON

Malate is a cornucopia of assaulting elements. Malate transcends religious, societal boundaries; it's good for the soul.

ANGELINA COCKRELL

Malate is hip yet accessible and definitely relaxed. The only place with a soul in Manila.

JUAN CHUA

Malate is a cross-section of society. Distinct but united in culture.

BIEN BENITEZ

It has an inimitable and unpretentious atmosphere. It's got style and soul!

MIGUEL ROSALES

Three things: the frenetic energy of the place; the "anything-goes, throw-caution-to-the-wind" attitude of those who frequent the area; and Fidel's vodka martini.

RICKY DAVID

No inhibitions.

MIKO VALENZUELA

The interesting characters that you meet and surreal incidents that occur are uniquely Malate.

CELINE LOPEZ

The mood of the people and the place. In Malate, people want to have fun. You feel that there are no boundaries or limits, no one is bound by what is "proper." In Malate, it's about letting yourself go, giving in to your desires and enjoying it at the same time. In Malate, it's okay to be who you are because everyone there celebrates exactly that!

TINA TINIO

I can wear anything and do anything... well, almost!

ANA ABAD SANTOS

The frenzy, the in-your-face attitude, and the relaxed morals.

JIM TAN

The way reality breathes there. The space-time tells you how earthy it is to savour and enjoy a drink in an area glorified.

JOHN GLENN

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s you on in Malate?'

What turns me on is its character and its attitude. It has no inhibitions, no pretensions. You can be what you want to be without feeling left out. It can be simple and grand at the same time. The whole Malate creates its own feel just like a chameleon. And when a person sets foot in Malate, he creates his own feel, just like Fantasy Island. The feeling of oneness just like a family and the feeling of freedom and familiarity.

RAOUL RAMIREZ

Because people in Malate like to live outside the safe and the predictable, because they like to live on the edge and sometimes court danger. And the place—sexy! Plus, it has no pretensions; it is intelligent, bohemian, witty and downright raunchy, if you know what I mean!

BART GUINGONA

The sense of possibility and the air of transgression.

CARLO TADIAR

Does the world really need another mall? But Malate... small streets, antique shops, art deco buildings, great food, hobbits, honey. Now we're talking neighborhood.

BABY AND COCO ANNE

I think because it is more relaxed and also because Cocoy at Fidel and Erwin at Acquario play music of the '70s and '80s as well as contemporary dance music better than anybody else.

ANDREW GAN

Aside from the obvious, it's that contagious bohemian vibe that makes all inhibitions obsolete.

LEICA CARPO

Its bohemian character! Nowhere else can you party with people from all the social strata— from people in slippers to those in Manolos! Malate is a great social equalizer.

ERIC BERBERABE

The freedom, the sense of adventure, the up-for-anything attitude that almost everyone seems to project. It's not stiff like other places. It's not a place to see and be seen. It has its own charm and vibe.

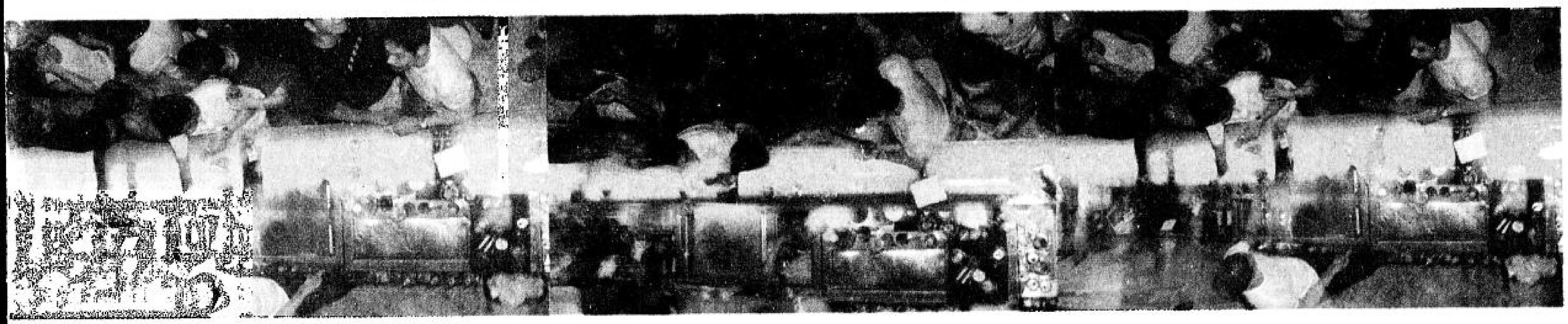
ANDY VASQUEZ PRADA

Malate is the most socially democratic place there is. Where else do doñas strut with drag queens, and businessmen brush elbows with business boys on the street? And they all feel equally at home on Nakpil as they step from Firma to Fidel, Verve to Bargo, Sala to Spirits.

DON ESCUDERO

What really turns me on is, to wash away your sins then committing them all over again, in last night's "Redemption" post-Holy Week party in BED!

JAY SANTOS



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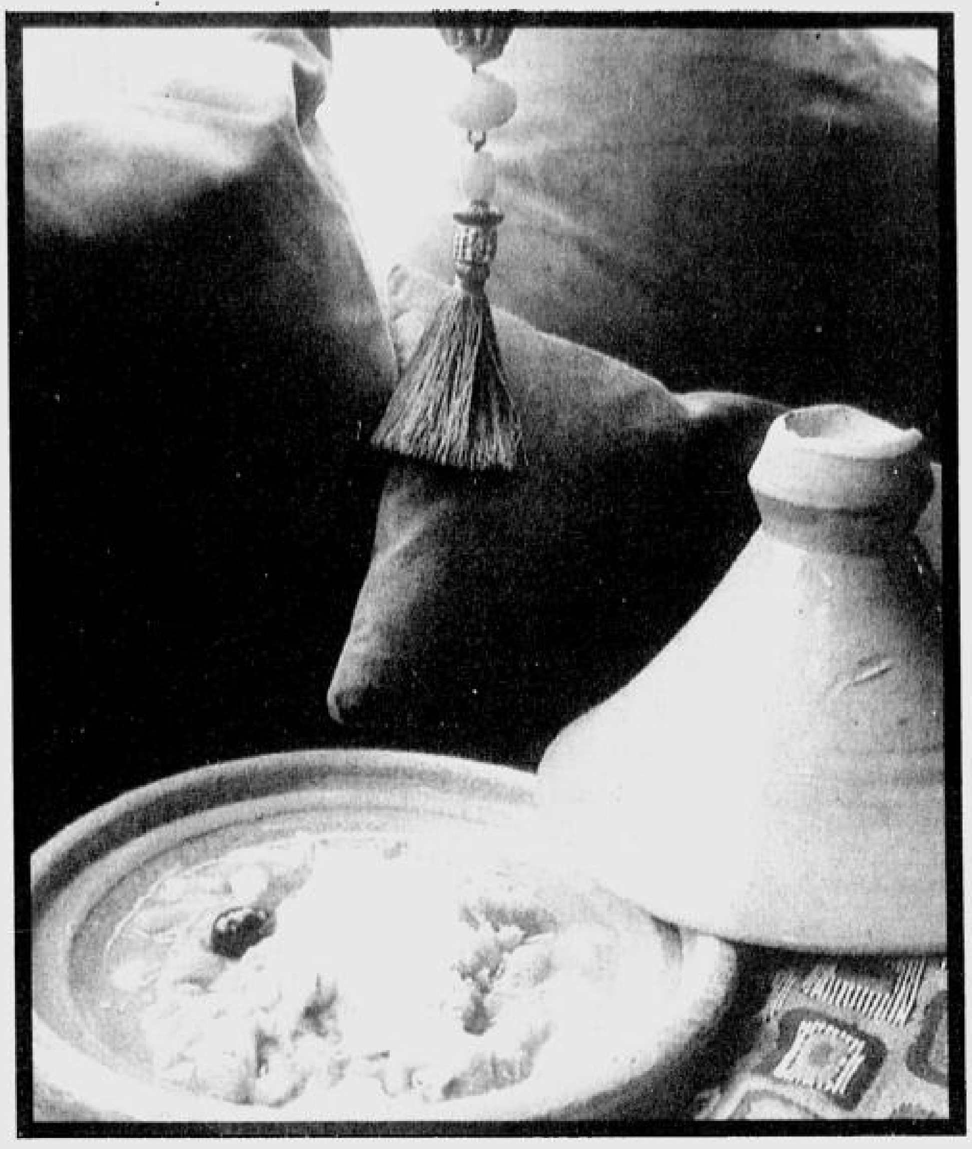
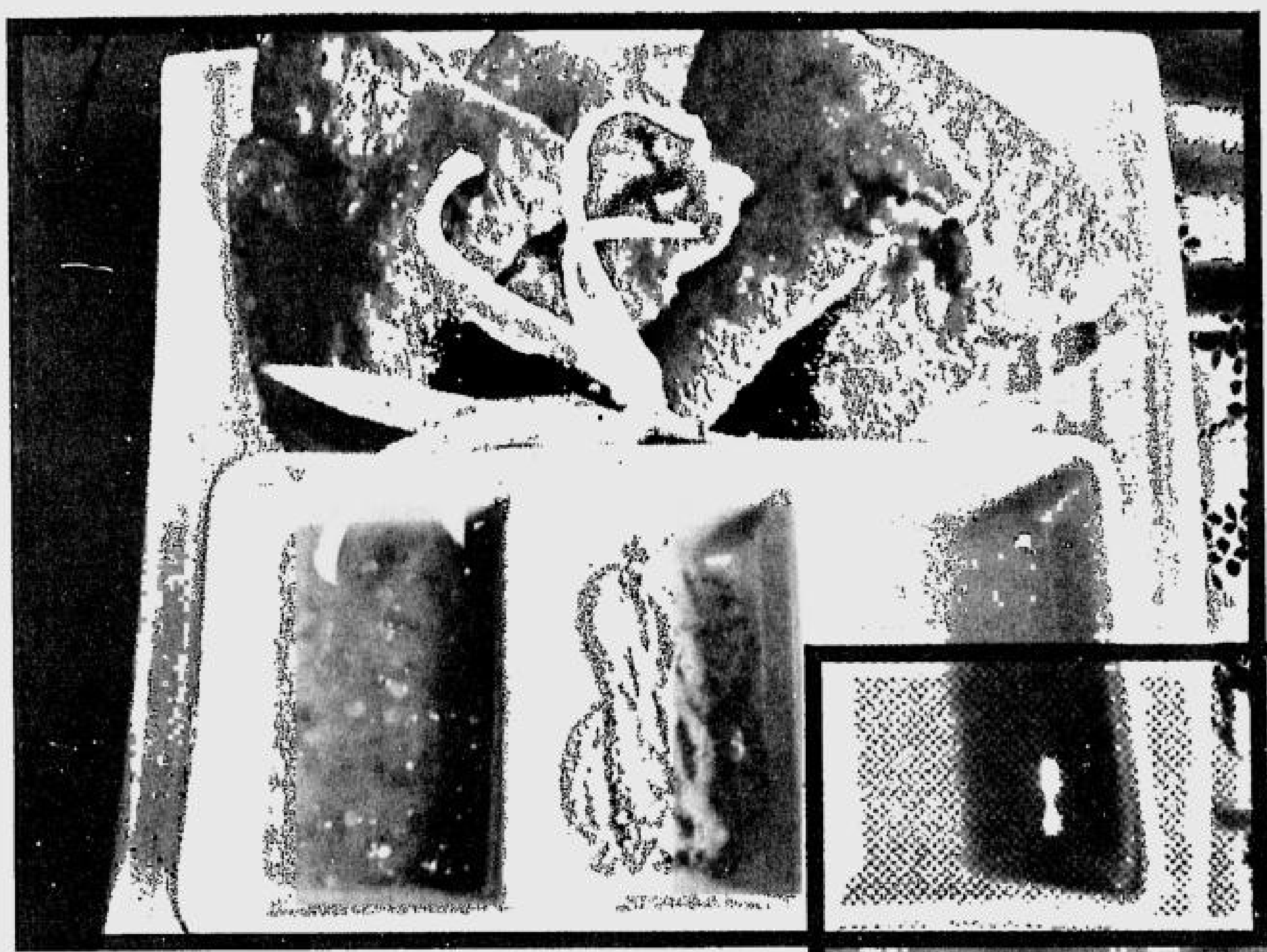
MENU MALATE

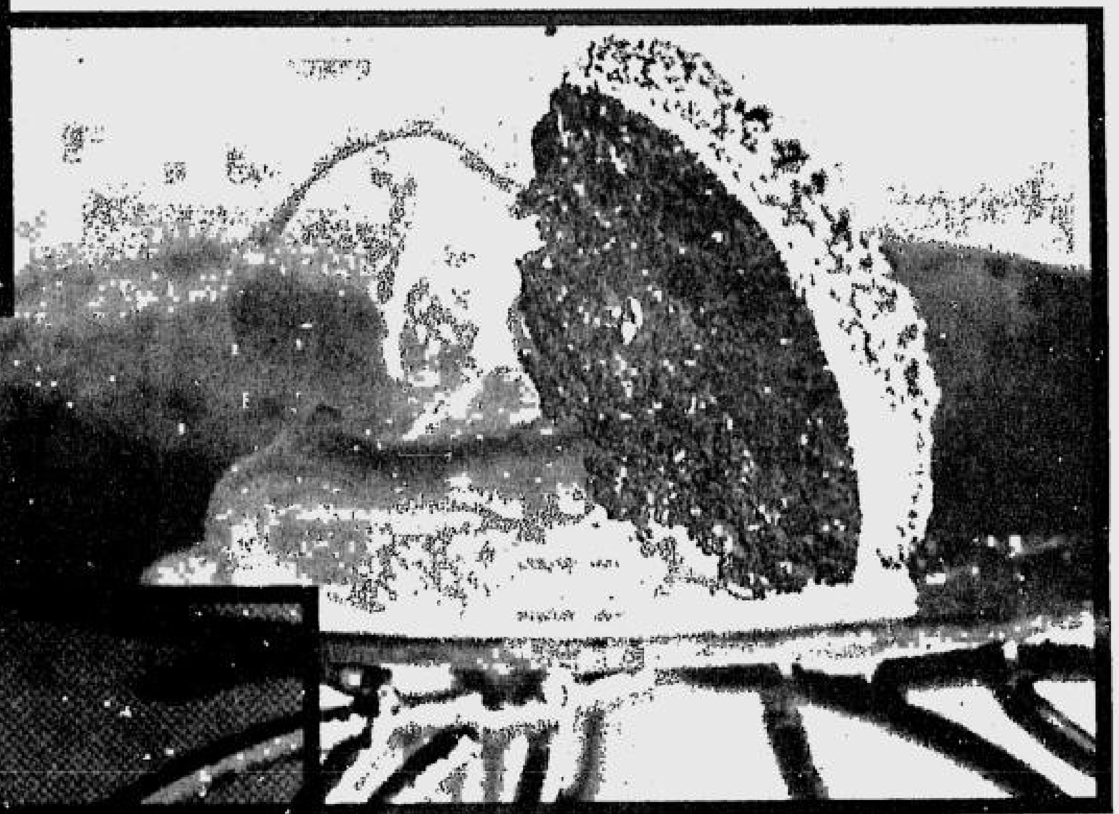
DJ Montano samples the district's culinary variety

GARAM Masala (curry powder in most kitchens) in Indian cuisine is an essential element in most dishes. Without it, lamb curry would just be stewed lamb. In analogy, a dollop of sour cream without caviar would just be a dollop of sour cream. Nam Pla (fish sauce), an ingredient that gives the flavor to Pad Thai, also applies as such to Thai cooking, as is Charmoula (fresh herb paste) to Moroccan cooking. On the Western front, a good stock or broth will taste flat without a boucquet garni (an herb packet) while most western sauces regard béchamel as the mother of sauces. It used to be that such condiments could only be prepared or found in their authentic forms from their native origins, but that is no longer true nowadays.



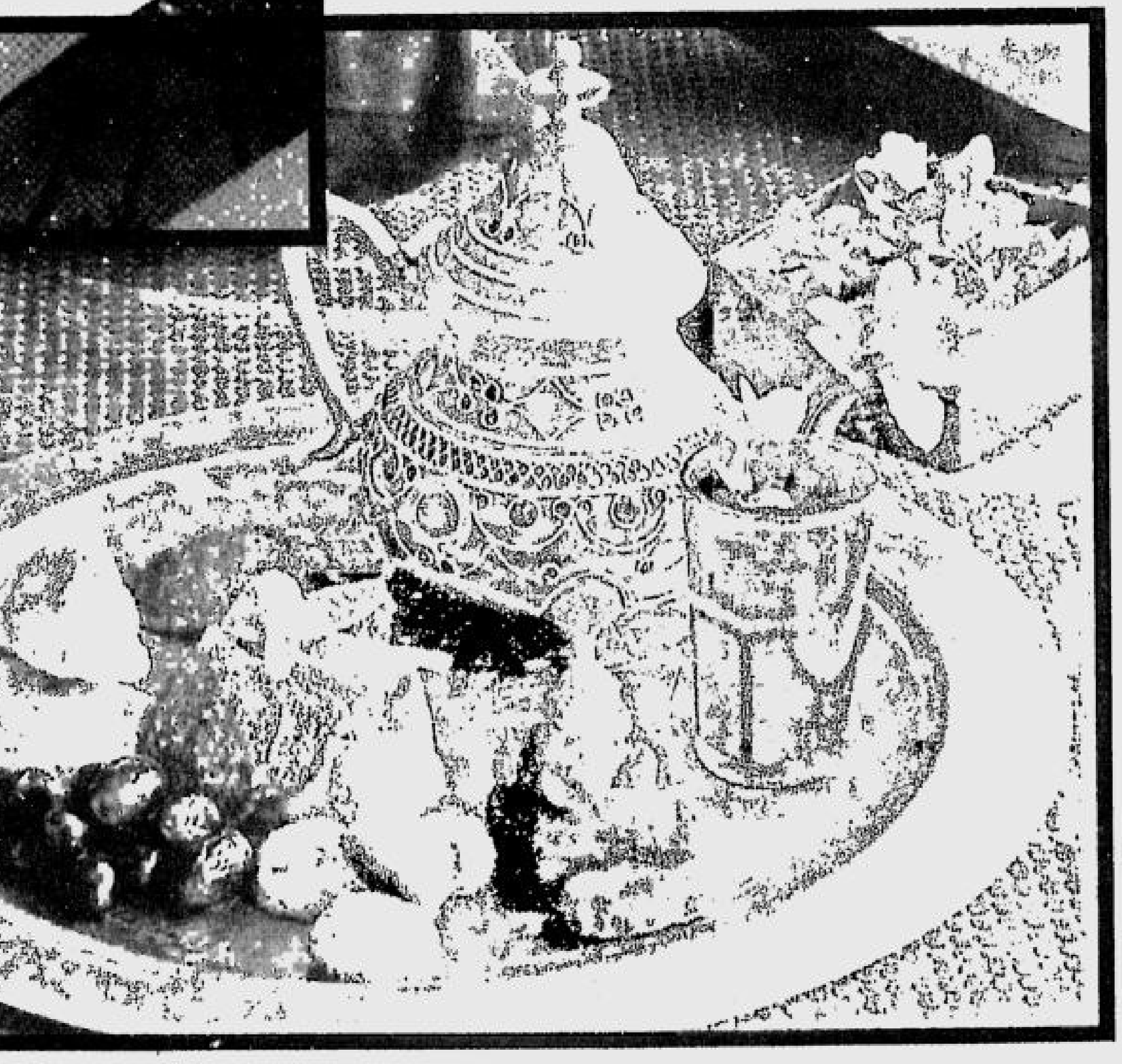
MUCH has been said about the world becoming more and more connected and how everything can be found everywhere nowadays. This definitely holds true for cuisine. I'm certain this will raise a few objections, but the best crudités may no longer be found in France, nor the best chutney in India. A Singaporean may find the most delectable Hainanese chicken in a nondescript restaurant in the meat-packing district of New York. A German lady may proudly state that she saw the most savory Konigsberger Klopse in a Hong Kong diner in Kowloon.



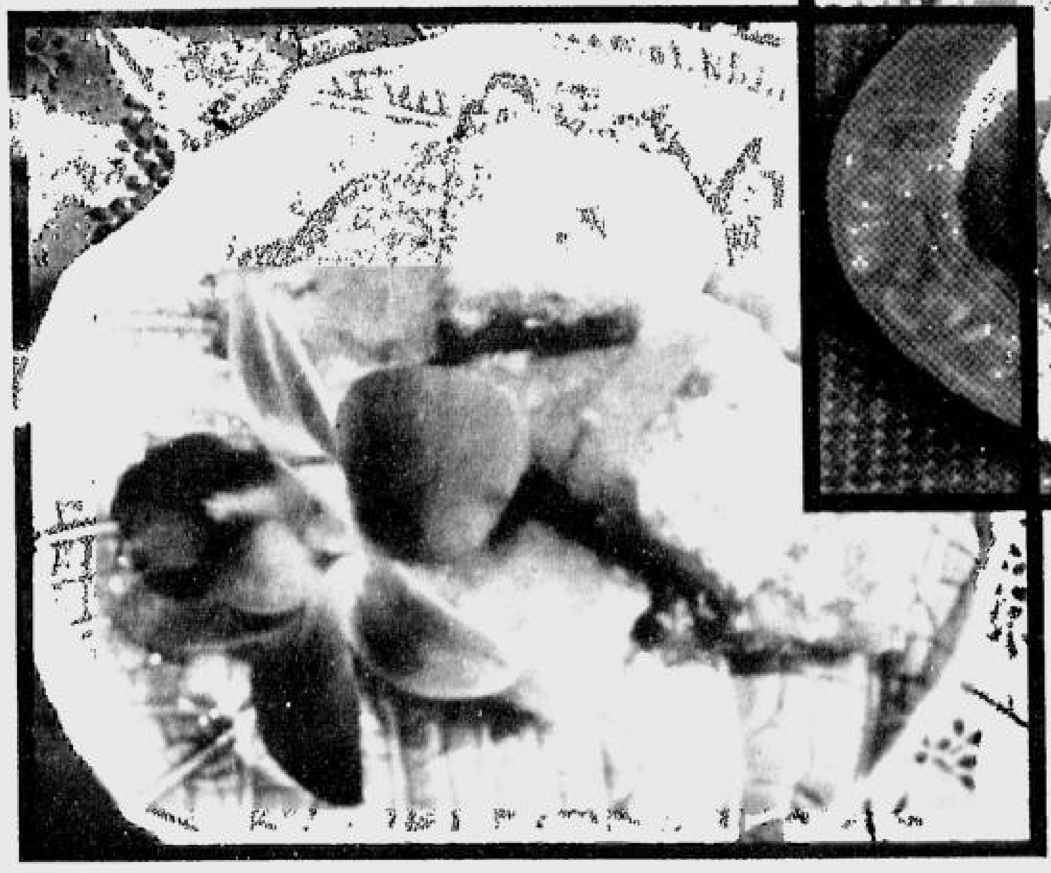


THE CITY of Manila is one example of a diverse culinary landscape. Filipinos, in general, just love to eat. In downtown Malate, it's easy to find a great variety of innovative and authentic dining establishments. Its Old World charm and bohemian spirit has made it a natural breeding ground for creative cuisine—much like Paris' finer restaurants are found in the historical district of Marais.

MALATE counts an influential population of foreigners who have called it their home and have set up their own restaurants, infusing them with their foreign tastes and styles. In the Malate neighborhood, one can find great comfort in not having to travel to Bangkok to find galangal, a rhizome that tastes like half-ginger and half-black pepper, used in its fresh form in a local Thai restaurant. On the same Malate street, it is truly precious to discern saffron, a spice worth its weight in gold, used generously in a Spanish restaurant's prized marinara. On another corner, diners at a French Moroccan restaurant have always been delighted to find their lamb tagine actually served in what else—a tagine. About a block away, a Korean lady is infamous for jealously guarding the secret to her fiery kimchi and tender bulgogi.



ON A VERNACULAR perspective, many believe that some of the bes [illegible] nga cuisine can be found in an establishment very near the historic Malate Church. A walk down the side of Mabini and one can find a small Japanese noodle house serving the metro's heartiest soba broths. It's not surprising then for the city's most discerning food enthusiasts to often find their way to Malate to satiate their tastes.

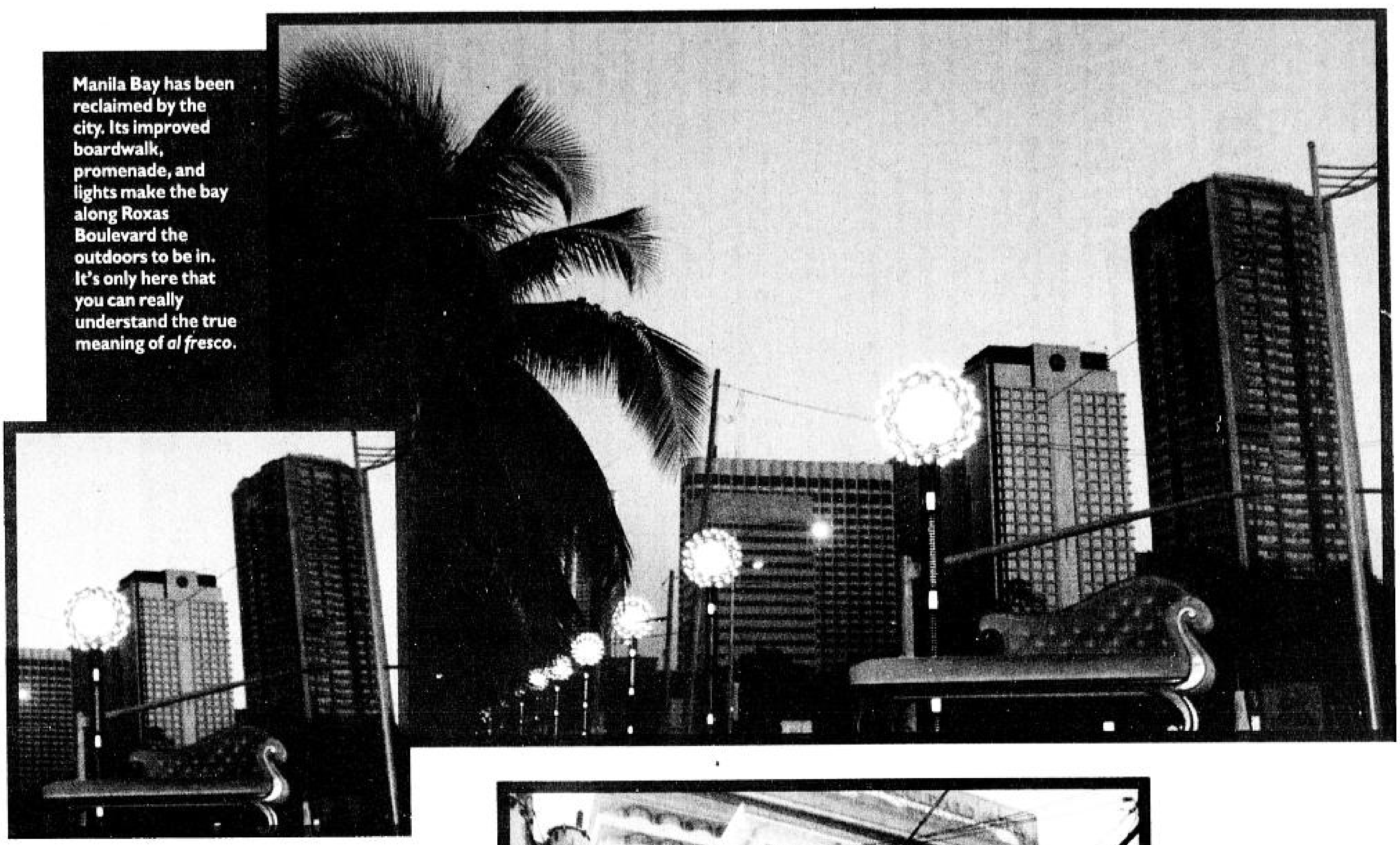


NOWADAYS, a profuse number of choices are offered to every diner, when about two decades ago, one had to travel great distances to experience the authentic. Such is the result of giving the culinary enthusiast mobility, access to information and resources about world cuisine. It also has a lot to do with the vast migration of people to other countries, thus bringing with them their own culinary delights. This is, presently, a great privilege that one hopes would never be ignored or taken for granted.

DIVANMALATE

Firma's BoBo chaise-longue journeys from dawn till dusk

Malate is a place that expresses urbanity in its truest form, without homogeneity and artifice. From the streetscape to the plazas and restaurants, Malate allows one to enjoy the theater of the street.



Manila Bay has been reclaimed by the city. Its improved boardwalk, promenade, and lights make the bay along Roxas Boulevard the outdoors to be in. It's only here that you can really understand the true meaning of *al fresco*.

The Malate Church speaks of the history of the district. Its architecture and location allow for interaction among street, structure and space. Opening up to the bay, it's a reminder of a history and a heritage that have withstood the test of time, something that no homogenized, sterile urban environment can replicate.

The streets of Malate exude a strong historical character, a mix of different architectural styles. The street comes alive at night, transformed into an arena that is public, pedestrian and fun.

The new Rajah Soliman Plaza fountain enlivens the area, creating a firm connection with Manila Bay. The refurbished plazas continue a tradition set in the Spanish times. It's great to see people outside enjoying the breeze and the night sky, away from air-conditioned malls and cinemas. Parks are, after all, for people. And where is this more evident than in Malate?

Malate consists of exciting contrasts that allow for individual expressions, collectively creating a unique identity. Its history, commerce, and activity add up to the pageantry that is truly Malate.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Scape Escape

The unexpected paradise known as Papua New Guinea holds yet another surprise: the tribal art of the tattoo

Body art at the last frontier

Text and photos by Dr. Seppo Suomela
Contributor

IT is often called the county of the unexpected; the last paradise. It is home to jungle-covered lowland plains, mountain ranges towering heights of over 5,000 meters, countless deep valleys, dark mangrove swamps and islands of tribal life so rich and diverse. It is also called Papua New Guinea.

This Melanesian country, with only five million inhabitants, but more than 700 languages spoken throughout its vast network of villages, boasts life rich in culture and art. Elaborately painted bodies, dancers with brilliantly colored feathers, flower wigs and grass skirts offer impressive examples of artistic magnificence.

It is particularly in the highland region of Papua New Guinea, that several tribes have developed body decoration into a fine art. The body decorations are distinctive to each tribe and are worn mainly for ceremonial purposes, such as initiation rites of young men, religious festivals and festivals of the dead. Reasons for "dressing up" may also include healing ceremonies, communal hunting expeditions, peace-making after tribal fighting or the opened ceremonies of newly-built schools and business establishments. Foreign and domestic dignitaries are also commonly welcomed to the villages by dancing tribes in their brilliant outfits.

The purpose of body painting is both esthetic and social, and it is performed to express cultural characteristics of a society. In some areas people may still wear forms of body decoration in their everyday life; in other areas, they may be mainly used on ceremonial occasions. The colors, patterns and decorations vary depending on the occasions and circumstances for which they are applied. Ages, sex and social status in the tribal community determine the extent of body painting. These traditions are still passed on from generation to generation, enforcing togetherness and cultural identity amid Papua New Guinea's fragile civil society and rapidly changing lifestyles.

Rituals

In Papua New Guinea, it is the men that dominate public life. They hunt, they fight and they also lead the rituals to ensure that festivities are conducted following centuries of old customs and rules. But the art of body decoration is practiced both by men and women. A slowly disappearing form of body decoration is that of tattooing, in which the whole body (commonly a woman's) was decorated with patterns and design that were a part of that particular family and clan. In the areas of Sepik River, tiny cicatrices (wounds) were incised in the chest and upper back of young men forming patterns that were highly symbolic in that culture. However, it is face- and body-painting that is featured dominantly in the various cultures of Papua New Guinea.

Obtaining decorations for foods art may end up being costly and time-consuming. Some of the decorations may be obtained through trading—as was the case in the past—or be borrowed for a particular dance. Hunting for the bird of paradise for their brilliantly colored feathers—by using bows and arrows—requires special skills. The jungle is the domain of wild spirits, and hunting there is essentially an activity carried out by men. Success in hunting is thought to depend on the favor of ancestral ghosts, who intercede with the wild spirits to allow the men to catch their prey.

In the art of body decoration in Papua New Guinea, the important traditional decorative items include shells, plumes and feathers of birds of paradise, cassowary, parrots and cockatoos. Also opossum furs, snake and lizard skin, wigs and aprons are essential. Dancers often use various types of accessories, such as drums, shields, spears, axes and bones. Tree oils, pig grease and blood are spread throughout the body to provide shine and particular odor. Bones, teeth and tusks of pigs, dogs and various marsupials are commonly used as nose-pegs and necklaces.

The materials used for body decoration have changed thoughout the years. Whereas natural colors made from powdered charcoal,

BODY/ F2

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SMART Simply Amazing!

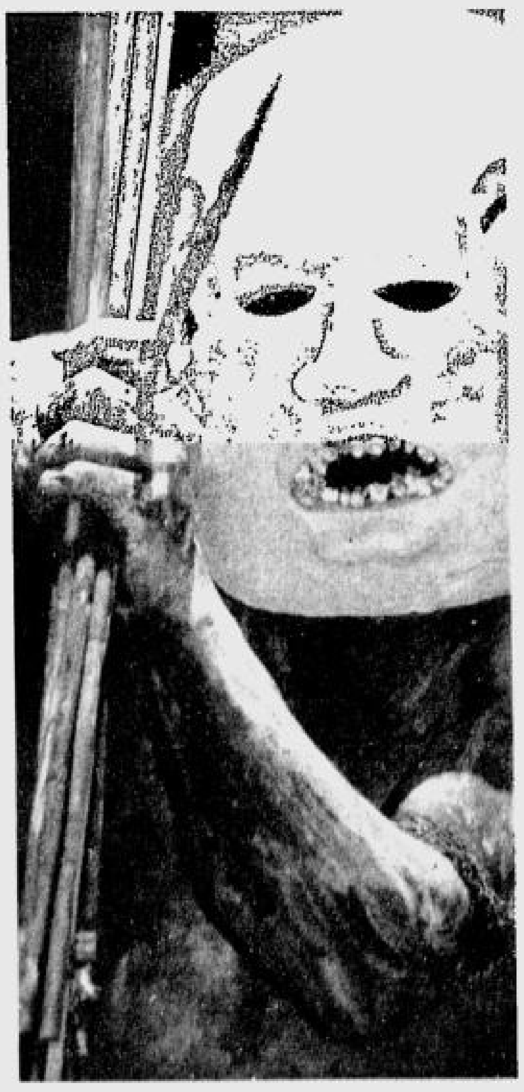
Body art at the last frontier

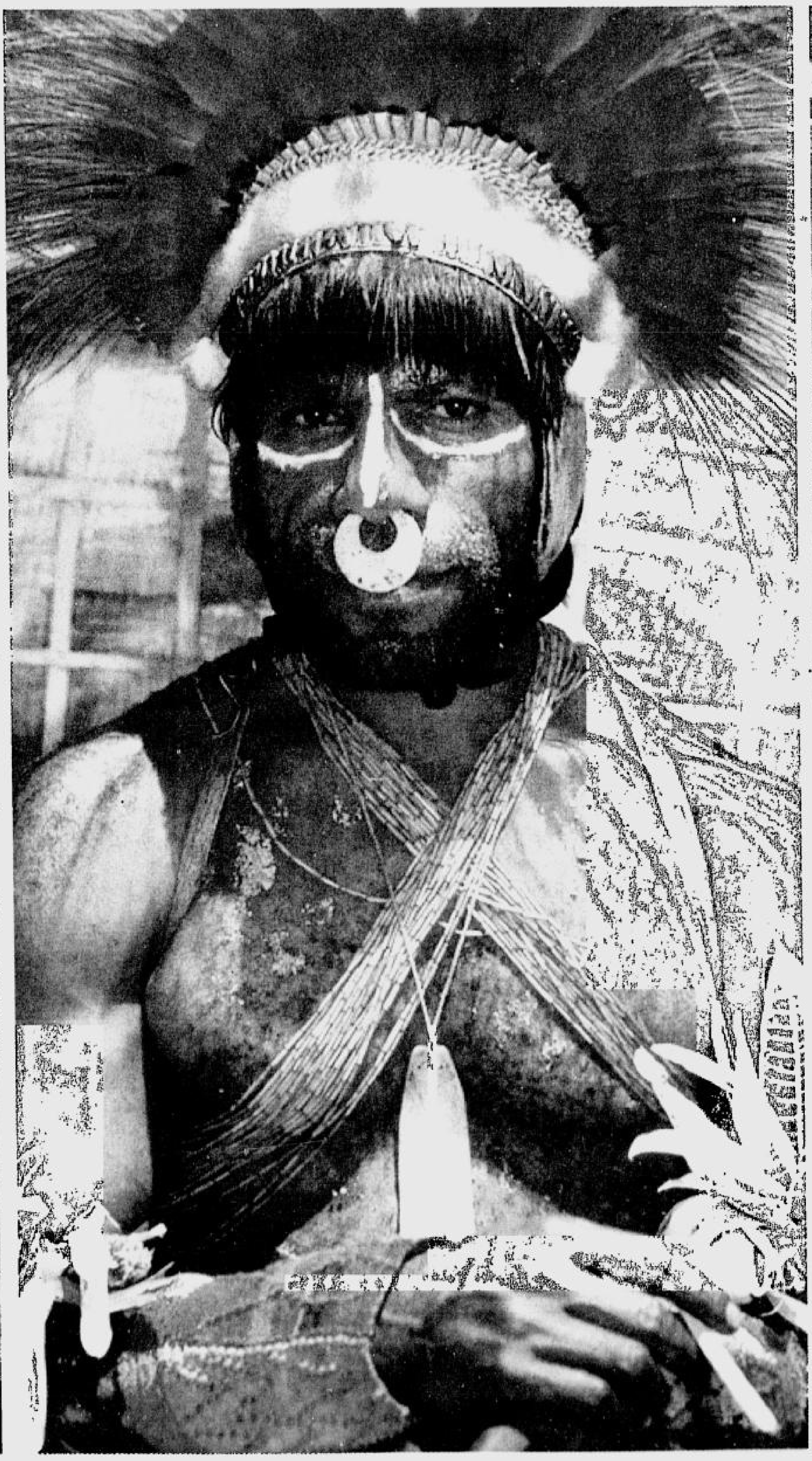
From page F1

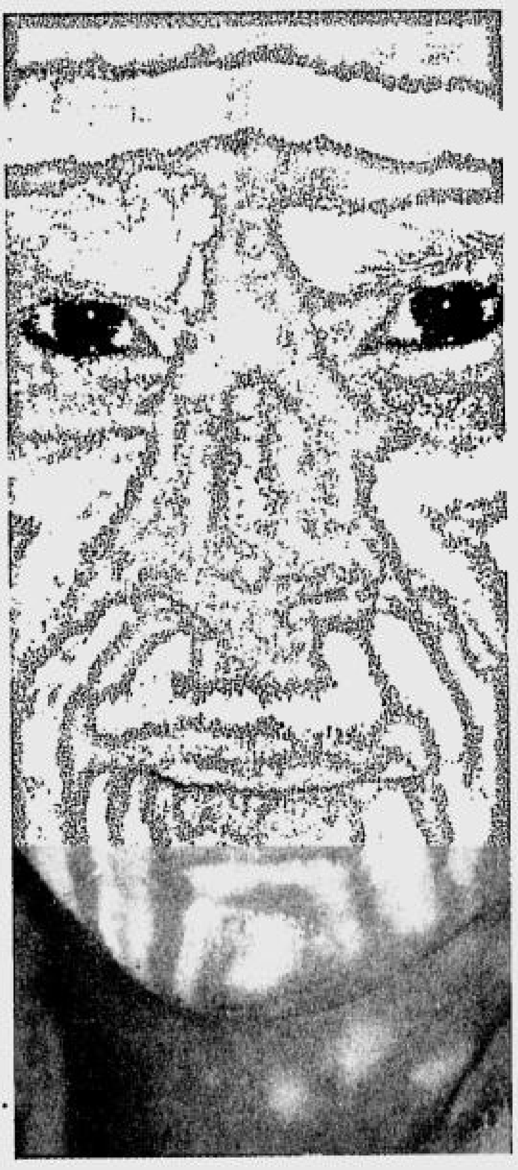
mixed with water or tree-oils, clay, chalk and burned ochre are still used, synthetic more vibrant and brighter colors are commonly featured, or mixed with the natural ones. Imagination seems to have no boundaries; plastic, labels and various odds such as photos of politicians have found their way to this elaborate form of body decoration.

Each color may have a particular symbolic meaning and the selection of colors is unique for each clan. For example, red—the color of blood—has a special potency and is considered magical. Among the tribes of Mendi, in Southern Highlands, tribes interpret certain face patterns like an oracle. They paint a young girl's face half-black and half-red—the black half symbolizing the spiritual future for her clan, the red the future economic prosperity of her group. In case the colors blur during the subsequent dancing, this is considered a bad omen.

Among the most magnificent and finest forms of body decoration in Papua New Guinea is practiced by the Huli tribe of the Southern Highlands province. The wigs of Huli men are made of human (male) hair. In order to obtain the hair, young boys are sent to a "spirit house" in a deep jungle for a few months. They are looked after by an elderly man of the clan, who provides the boys with a diet consisting of hair-growth stimulating herbs. Once the hair has grown long enough, the elderly man cuts the hair and weaves it into wigs and ochre color is finally added. During special ceremonies the wigs are transformed into platforms for some of the most elaborate headdresses in the world made of birds of paradise or cockatoo feathers, marsupial fur, daisies, insects and assorted shells, beads and bones. Sometimes even western culture's glittering, Christmas decorative ornaments may he added.







Clay plays an important role in the body decoration of the highlanders. It is a common practice to cover the face, head or even the whole body with clay as a sign of mourning after the death of a close relative. In some areas, clay is also used as a part of boys' initiation rites. A whole body may be covered in clay, in the same way as in mourning; with the belief that the boy "dies" during the initiation and is reborn as a mature adult.

The men of Asaro Valley in the Eastern Highlands province have developed clay decorations into a remarkable form of art. According to a legend, once, when their village was attacked and they were outnumbered, the warriors fled and hid it in the mud of the bank of Asaro River. After some time the river mild dried on the bodies of the warriors. Seeing the clay-encrusted figures, the enemy mistook them for evil spirits and took flight. Even today, the men of Asaro Valley hold ceremonies to commemorate this incident, which gave birth to the art Asaro mudmen—dancers, who cover their bodies with clay put clay mask over their heads and insert sharpened, bamboo cane finger extensions. As the clay cracks and peels off, it reminds the viewer of a decomposing body.

Like fashion, so evolves the body art of Papua New Guinea. Although Coca-Cola, Ray-Bans and Baywatch have well penetrated even the most remote jungle villages, the tradition of body decoration, remains vibrant. The colors may have changed, the materials and patterns may have become more modern, but the core of artistic expression—the beliefs, the values the identity—remains as strong as ever. It reflects the unique diversity, the richness and pride that the people of Papua New Guinea feel for their culture.

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Text gang carouses in Boracay

GLOBE celebrated summer in Boracay. Sun worshippers included Gentxt endorsers Bianca Gonzalez and Evan Santos, Powerboy Greg Martin, model and talk-show host Hans Montenegro, musicians Jimmy Bondoc and Nina, and legendary cager Atoy Co.

During the day, Boracay's long beach was dotted with Gentxt *paraws*, sailboats bearing Globe's standard G in blue and white, that offered Gentxters free rides across the island.

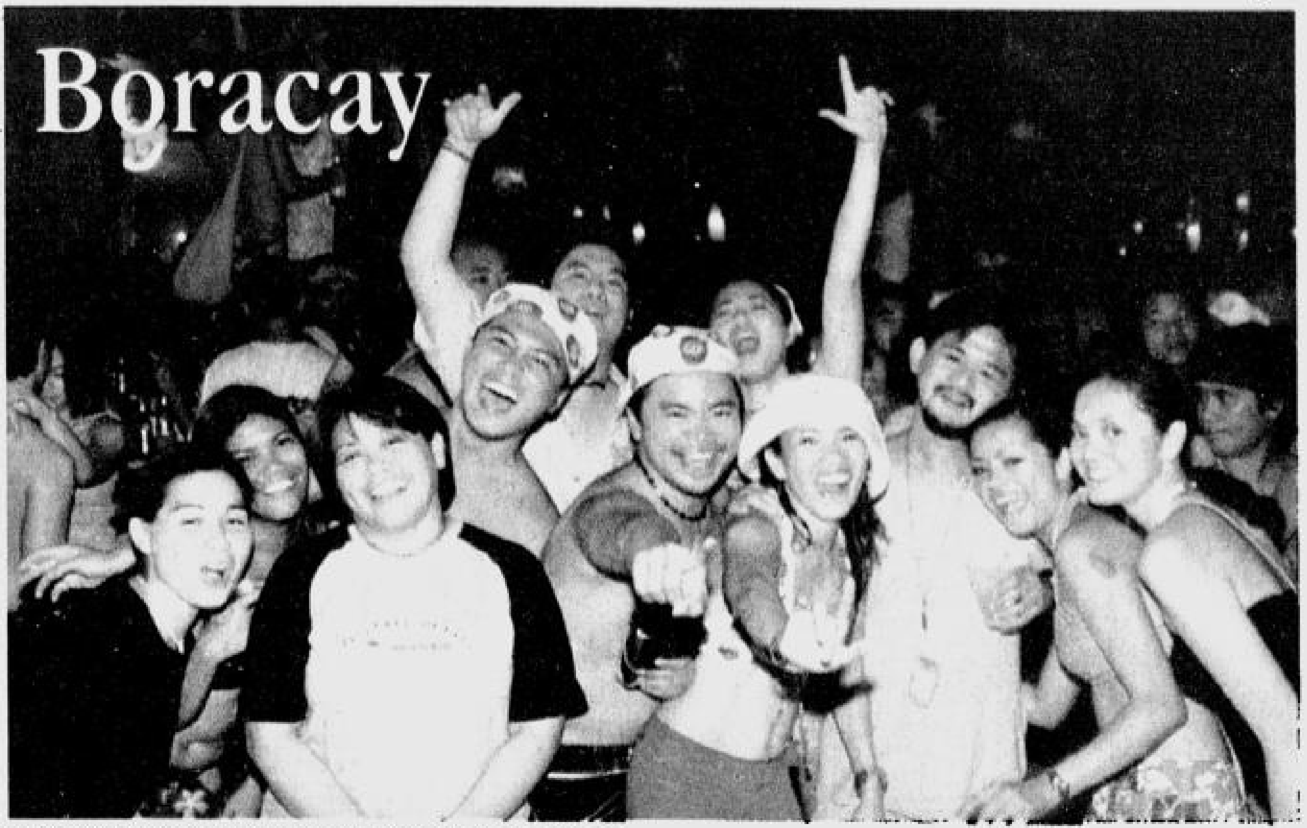
On April 16, Gentxters converged at Summer Place for the Latin House Sunset Session with Roberto Sanchez and Samba Funk.

At 10 p.m., DJs Jaco and Cocoy Puyat brought the house down with storming house music and blissful grooves.

At Pier One, music lovers enjoyed popular Top 40 tunes covered by the Next Level.

Gentxters were treated to the events for free by flashing their Gentxt cards, their passport to fun parties and exciting freebies like Gentxt tattoos, backpacks, bandannas, shirts, hats and caps as well as free ice tea from Lipton and friendship bracelets from The Bead Shop. Gentxters also availed of special discounts at Caribo, Barracuda, Charlhs, Wreck, Little Mango, Secs in Boracay, Calypso Diving and Aquarius Diving.

April 17 featured electronics fused with classic samba at Summer Place courtesy of Latin Canteen's Brasilia, featuring Carlo Ching, while R&B lovers were dazzled by a concert giv-


GENTXTERS celebrate Globe's killer events in Boracay.

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CHOOEY Velayo and Greg Martin

KEEMPEE de Leon and Globe's Buda Concio

EVAN Santos with 5-year-old Nicole Pamular

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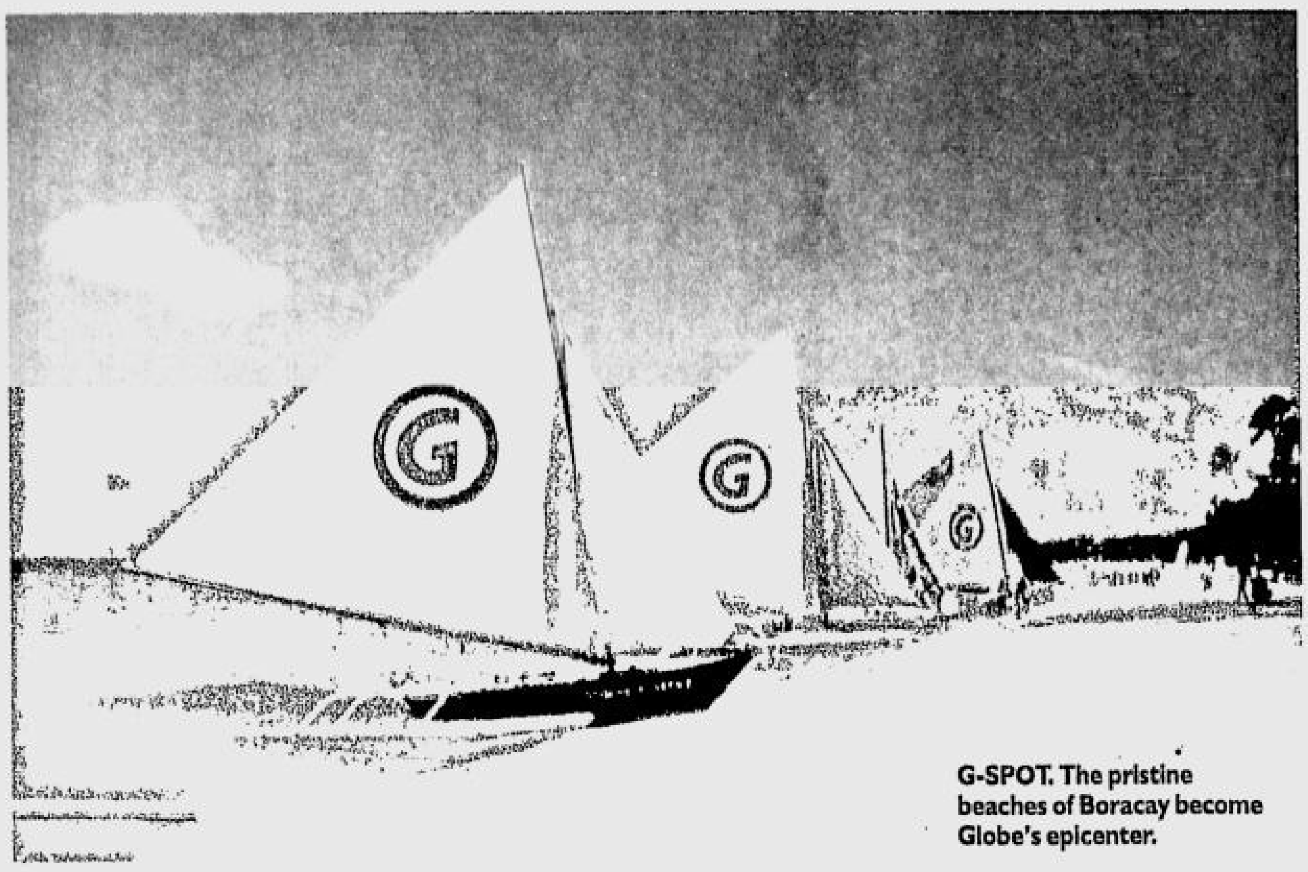

G-SPOT. The pristine beaches of Boracay become Globe's epicenter.

en by the all-girl combo Silk at Pier One.

On April 19, Gentxt jammers marched to Club Summer Place for an evening of nonstop live reggae and ska music. Carlotta Ensemble opened the show with a grand fireworks display as backdrop. Indio played for two straight hours.

Brownman Revival kept the crowd on its feet until 4 a.m. It was followed by pumping hiphop music provided by scratch masters 63 Squad and DJ Jaco.

Mainstream music fanatics flocked to Pier One for the back-to-back concert of Next Level and Silk.

On Easter Sunday, Noel Cabangon 's folk acoustic rhythms at the Summer Palace.

The Gentxt Easter party at Pier One ended with a highly charged dance session with music by Latin Canteen's Novalounge, featuring Scrambled Edge and Mike Constantino.

gentx
RU 1 OF Us?

RACHEL Alejandro at the Gentxt booth

GENTXTERS Evan and Bianca

ACROBATIC act

Circus marks Easter

GLOBELINES, the landline phone service of Globe Telecom, celebrated Easter Sunday with "The Big Easter Circus."

Activities were held in two separate venues, the Mandarin Oriental Hotel and the Rockwell Power Plant, both in Makati City.

At the Mandarin, the event featured exciting games, raffles, bazaar, a circus show and the traditional Easter egg hunt. Easter bunnies and circus performers accompanied the children to the egg-painting contest, face paintings, caricaturing and henna tattoos.

Activities at Rockwell included magic and puppet show, juggling acts and a snare-a-pet contest.

FACE-PAINTING

MON Pineda, head of Wireline Voice-Sales, with Charisse Chuldian, Mandarin Oriental's PR manager

ca Abrilla, Remy Aceveda, Grace Acuin, Rene Alimbuyuguen, Carmelita Aquino, Ignacio Aquino, Flora Arellano, Ma. Elena Asturias, Amelia Atanacio, Edgar Bartolata, Nancy Bautista,
san, Marichu Cebuma, Carmela Sempio-Chamberlain, Leli Cheng, Anissa Chua, Milagros Clet, Sherwin Comia, Marlito De Chavez, Fe De Dios, Delia de los Santos, Ma. Antonietta
ld Gan, Veronica Gonzalez, Fortunato Guadez, Ma. Teresa Hernandez, Marivic Hidalgo, Marian Isla, Antonia Jardiniano, Elizabeth Jumaquio, Luisito Laudico, Alma Llorente, Jonah
as, Georly Mecate, Cecilia Melendres, Lito Melendres, Christy Mendoza, Ma. Rita Nepomuceno, Eric Nicdao, Susana Obiniana, Lucila Ocampo, Imelda Oppus, Leonida Pagdonsolan,
ez, Leah Ponio, Merlita Primo, Violeta Quilao, Mignon Ramos, Monalisa Rieta, Precy Rivero, Herminia San Juan, Antonio Santana, Adora Sibayan, Antonio Tan, Broderick Tiongson,
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No end to adventure

BLINDING-WHITE sand (and sandbar in the background) at high noon

Text and photos by Elizabeth Lolarga
Contributor

WHILE armchair-traveling through the Discovery Channel, I once stumbled on a quote from Jawaharlal Nehru: "There is no end to the adventures that we can have."

Yes, the jaded beach comber will be surprised to find that the 1,000-hectare island of Boracay offers not just the usual aqua sports plus the throbbing (as in a headache) nightlife. Despite SARS, the Davao bombings and the war in Iraq, the resort business in this part of Panay province continues to thrive. Perhaps it is in the attitude of the expatriates and the locals who call the place home.

Originally from Liege, Belgium (also where novelist Georges Simenon came from), Philippe D. Bartholomi, general manager of Fridays Resort on the northern part of Boracay where the quality of the sand is finest, said overall there had been less than five cancellations, all from Korea and probably stemming from the travel advisory issued by the government there. (By the way, the resort's name also has a literary origin: Robinson Crusoe's aide.)

"Terrorist activities can happen at the center of London or anywhere in the world," Bartholomi said to the members of the Southeast Asian Airlines (SEAIR) media tour group each sipping rich, thick minestrone from a demitasse. "I've been in this country since 1986. I've never had any trouble."

Handsome chef Tom Hines set things straight for the benefit of the group at large by immediately declaring that he is happily married to a Filipino wife and has two children. Was there a sudden lowering of the excitement we exuded when we arrived?

At any rate, Hines trained with Le Souffle's Billy King and worked at Fashion Café. Bartholomi described him as "young, flexible, open-minded." Also: "He improved the presentation of Filipino food. The plain *adobo* he turned into something nice, but he kept the original taste. For the *caldereta*, he removed the tiny bones."

MOMENT of solitude in coconut grove

Nevertheless, Hines' appetizer, Yapak yellowfin tuna carpaccio (named after the community where Fridays is located), set my companion Ester, who normally eats whole black peppers, coughing. "[The freshly ground pepper] is in her windpipe," someone said, looking like he was about to apply the Heimlich maneuver on her. Before anyone could make a move, she calmed down. We partook of the Pacific Rim seafood platter consisting of char-grilled salmon, prawn and blue marlin with pumpkin and spinach risotto.

There was a collective gleeful groan when a sampler of the resort's desserts (Fridays has a pastry chef, a rarity on the isle) were served: tiramisu, chocolate enigma and mango cheesecake.

After helping run Manila Polo Club for some years, Bartholomi is relieved to be rid of his blazer and suit and Manila's traffic and pollution. He now walks to work in T-shirt and shorts from his rented place in the island's equivalent of Forbes Park, the houses and villas resting on a hilltop on Diniwid Beach. There, a standard-size Philippine flag flies above a bigger Swiss flag.

At the bar that's spitting distance from the beach, bartender Rex Rentillo (who's been with the resort since 1992), shows off the cocktails that he has concocted and entered in local competitions.

Worth a try (and possibly a hangover) are Fridays' Sunset, his tribute to Boracay's sunset (and consisting of vodka, crème de cacao, melon, Triple Sec, grenadine, calamansi, pineapple and mango); Passport to Paradise (Drambuie, Triple Sec and Baileys); Absolutely Pinoy (vodka, lemon grass, calamansi and brown sugar); Fridays' Punch (vodka, pineapple juice, melon liqueur and Malibu liqueur) and iced tea with a diff—Breezy "T" with Absolut Kurant, Southern Comfort, peach schnapps, calamansi and cranberry juice.

At the Paradise Garden Resort and Hotel, Ester and I found ourselves billeted at the Andrew Lloyd Webber suite of the building dubbed The Greenhouse. (The other suites are named after the Gypsy Kings, Frank Sinatra, Edith Piaf, Harry Belafonte, Julio Iglesias, Kenny G, Louis Armstrong, Neil Diamond, Shirley Bassey, Whitney Houston, Freddie Aguilar and The Platters.)

FADING sun seen through thick foliage

Before we could croon "Another Suitcase in Another Hall," Thomas Adam, one of the resort's partners, said the names reflected his taste in music. Aguilar, the only Filipino thus honored, promised he would come and hold a concert on the resort grounds.

Jochen Buskowitz, who must get a kick to carry the title Paradise president, has traveled all over the world and been to the beaches of the Caribbean and Spain. But "Boracay is the best I've ever seen," he declared. "I thought of retiring here. I put up a bungalow. At that time there was no street, no power. I built the first swimming pool ever on the island. People thought I was crazy. Why you do that? The sea is just nearby."

That first pool, a simple rectangle perfect for doing laps, is, of all the resort's other pools, to me the best. It is Roman-inspired, with the marble statue of an armless female deity at one end, distressed tiles at the bottom and palm fronds breaking the view of a cloudless, blue sky whenever I float on my back.

Just a five-minute walk from the beachfront, the resort has accommodations that borrow from various architectural styles. Buskowitz compared them to a mosaic. His philosophy is not to fill up the space with rooms but to allow space for a garden and the growth of trees.

Here's more than one perspective in a blitz through Boracay, the hottest watering hole in this hot season

NO/ F7

Reality as we wish it

Text and photos by Abe Florendo
Contributor

THERE are places that seem to be suspended in space, places that are pure and inviolable, spirit more than location, dream more than reality—or what we wish reality should be.

In the Philippines, Palawan in the Southern Tagalog is such a place, and maybe Baguio in the Cordillera, and Isla Naburot, Siargao and Bantayan Island in the Visayas. Closest to the realm of surreal beauty is Boracay, an island in the Visayan Sea detached from the northern tip of Aklan.

But Boracay may not remain inviolate or pristine for much longer (although it still drives hedonists to launch into paroxysms of praise for its tropical pleasures and poetasters to compose hymns to its superb beaches and idyllic villages). If only it stopped being too touristy. If only it had never heard of bikini-open competitions.

Unfortunately, Boracay may yet become synonymous with bikini-open competitions. Indeed, what would be a perfect place to strut your near-naked stuff than this island where everyone feels, or pretends, they are innocents in paradise? The white sand that does not ever get hot under the implacable sun also makes it the best place to hold beach volleyball competitions, such as was held early this month. Events like this are expected to clog the beach, or occasion a minor hysteria when word flies that Bench underwear models Marc Nelson and Aubrey Miles, or some other billboard beauties with larger-than-life cleavages and crotches, have been spotted in a bar or on the beach.

Bohemianism in bikini has become part of the Boracay lifestyle today. It's a sea change away from the Boracay lifestyle that backpackers knew in the earlier days, when affordable gourmet dining meant sausage and sauerkraut or pasta with hard-to-obtain cheese at the little eateries run by tanned-to-leather Germans and French (or other foreigners in *sando* and shorts and scraggly beards who had stayed too long it was too late to return to their jobs and families back home). Then the best place to check in, if you were counting change, was Mila's place whose come-on was "marble bathrooms all throughout." You weren't sure whether it had rooms to sleep in.

In time, with the influx of more and more visitors, both foreign and local, Boracay needed more rooms, more bars, more eateries and shops. Many of the early visitors, who carried bits and pieces of their lives on their backs and thought they could stay on the island forever and keep it their secret, were frightened by the crowds and drifted to other not-so-frequented or -known beaches, like Naburot and Siargao.

Before long Boracay sprouted with chichi resorts with luxurious beachfront hotels (one boasts a golf course) and expensive room rates to match, as well as smaller hotels and inns with airy presumptions. Today there's a total of 1,500 rooms there, adequate off-season but critical during the peak summer and holiday seasons. Shops and eateries and especially bars are beginning to look more and more like the glitzy bars in Libis, not anymore the strictly thatched huts of the early days.

If the fact that Ayala has acquired a huge property along the northern, coral-strewn tip of the island, past Club Panoly (across the bay looms the island of Romblon), does not portend a picture of Boracay as the Riviera or Miami beach of Kalibo, it will certainly mean a Boracay that has gone cosmopolitan in a T-back.

Le Soleil de Boracay is a hotel with a mind to keeping it balanced between rustic and urbane. It is located right in the middle of the 3.5-kilometer stretch of white sand, marked by Boracay Terraces in Balabag to the north and Lorenzo South in Manuk-manuk.

Shopping enthusiasts will be delighted to know that it lies between the arcades recently built by the Elizaldes, where you can buy artisty crafts and enjoy a meal at Louie Cruz's fastfood with off-the-shoulder insouciance, and the *talipapa* of the natives, where most everyone goes for their sarongs and T-shirts, and their vegetables. For happenings—body-beautiful competitions, outdoor concerts, or volleyball championships—you can't have a better front-row seat.

Le Soleil is owned by the Cebu-based Lhuillier group of companies (the hotel's president is Jean Henri Lhuillier). The Lhuilliers have built a 46-room hotel that understands the budget of the bigger visitor market. And they understand their visitors' need for comfort and convenience, which basically means immaculate bed linen, fresh towels, good food, and communication facilities that will enable you to call home or office or abroad.

For businessmen, it has a new function room for small meetings and banquet functions. And there's a business center (actually the hotel's business office itself) where a secretary can help you send an e-mail or get you an antihistamine pill when you feel you're coming out in a rash after indulging in the irresistible king crabs—just tolerably spicy but explosively laden with *aligue*—at the French-Med restaurant Rendezvous.

INNOCENTS in a culture of pleasure pursuit

KIDS building sand castles in competition

But dinner at Le Soleil is best enjoyed *al fresco* on evenings, when like practically every eatery along the beachwalk they trot out choices of skewered meats for barbecues or buffet fares in chafing dishes. The hotel's specialties are steaks, grilled seafood, and the popular crepes (which kicked off a craze in Boracay). But *vive le difference*. The menu, as with the accommodations, has the Gallic flair of the Lhuilliers' lineage combined with touches of their aristocratic Cebuano heritage. This makes for a hotel and restaurant that, as J.H. Lhuillier says in his welcoming letter to our media group that visited Boracay in mid-March, will color "your dream vacation of sun, sea, sand and wind."

The hotel also runs an apartment with seven units, near the *talipapa* and a five-minute walk away from the beach, which is popular with families and groups that prefer to do their own cooking—or take a sensual bath together (among friends, of course) in one of

REALITY F7

No end to adventure

From page F6

The garden is planted to *tuba-tuba*, grandmother's tongue, periwinkle, hibiscus, cordyline, bird's nest fern, fan leaf palm and Roystonia royal palm trees, Indian neem trees, among others. In the course of labeling these plants, the partners discovered that historically the variety of plants in the Philippines before the Spaniards came was limited. Many plants came from South America, mainly Brazil and Mexico, and Florida.

As the owners told these stories in the gazebo, behind them Claudette Bradley played Beethoven's "Moonlight Sonata." She intrigued Ester and me when we learned that Paradise Garden and its beachfront restaurant, La Capanninna, were the only places where one can hear the classics and standards live.

Bradley, 41, an American of Maltese and Irish extraction, debuted as a concert pianist with the Miami Symphony Orchestra when she was 10. Although she studied piano at the Florida Atlantic University and was an exchange student at the Royal College of Music in London, she thought she wouldn't make it to the top 1 percent because of her short hand span.

She went to the Naval Academy in Virginia where she joined the Marine Corps Band, playing for two US presidents, Gerald Ford and Jimmy Carter. Later, she went back to school to study electronics, moved to the West Coast, worked for a company that needed someone with a musical background in developing the sound parts of a computer. She became a computer engineer and network administrator, putting in 10 hours at the office.

"I got out in time, or else I'd have taken that roller coaster ride when the economy took a downturn," she said. "Many information technology experts were laid off. They had to sell their Benzes and BMWs and take the bus, move back in with their parents, or work as security guards at department stores."

Bradley discovered Boracay in the course of her work in a cargo air carrier. "They gave me a flight to Tokyo where I stayed two days, then I was sent to Manila," she said. "Once there I was told, 'We have nothing for you,' so I had six weeks to wait for the next flight. I found a taxi that brought me to a travel agency. There I saw a poster of Boracay, that famous one with the palm tree leaning on the beach with the white sand. I said, 'I wanna go there.'"

Eventually, she decided to leave her coats in foggy San Francisco and bring over thousands of piano books and her CD collection of classical and world music. "You don't need much clothes here," she said.

Being an Everglades girl, Bradley easily took to the sunshine and blue skies. "My movie is the sunset," she said. "There is more balance now. I can support myself. I'm happier. That's what matters. You can only have it all if your heart and soul have the happiness. And I enjoy interpreting the masters of the last century. Nobody's come closer to them."

One evening, she played our requests (Debussy's "Arabesque" and "Reverie" for me and Franck's "Ave Maria" for Ester). We enjoyed our *calamansi gelato* and had a glass of red wine sent to her.

Another expat who fell in love with Boracay and decided to stay and live out her fantasies is Julia Lervik. She threw away her return ticket to Europe. Together with partner Otik Makavinta, she put up Balinghai Resort on a cliffside two coves away from the White Beach. (Balinghai is not a mockery of the "South Pacific" song "Bali Hai"; it means cassava, which used to grow profusely in the area.)

For our sunset dinner on the beach, papaya leaves were laid along a table and red hibiscus blossoms served as contrast to the green background. About a dozen holes were hollowed out in the sand, and lighted, tapered candles installed. Outstanding were the aubergine chips and the mango salsa.

Serving our drinks was Heracleo Alto, wearing loose pants (or was it a sarong?) and big puka shells around his neck, his wrists and ankles tinkling with more accessories. Although we agreed that he looked like a native hunk of burning love, he is originally from Makati, is married too, and answers to the nickname Bangaw.

But if there was anyone I would have wanted to bring home to my mother, it was Angelito "Dodong" Guevarra, the cook from the restaurant Caribo who prepared a bacchanalian lunch on Bunyagan Beach.

His boss Edgar Mercado had taught him all about Caribbean cooking, including what were served: cinnamon rice, a seafood skewer of blue marlin, prawns, assorted bell peppers, tomatoes and onions, prawns grilled in butter and annatto oil and sprinkled with pistachio, spicy jerk chicken, and banana Oreo.

The dessert is nothing more than your ordinary *lacatan* layered with Irish cream, coconut milk, pounded-to-bits Oreo cookies and pistachio nuts, but it is the ultimate decadence.

For details and booking information, visit: www.flyseair.com, www.paradise-garden.com, www.fridaysboracay.com, www.balinghai.com and www.pearlofthepacific.com.ph.

Reality as we wish it

From page F6

the units' huge shower room.

One question you probably have in mind: Is it safe to travel to Boracay? We don't know. But is it safe to travel anywhere else these days?

Le Soleil resident manager Peejay Reyes III says Boracay experienced a not too perceptible drop in arrivals after the Bali and Davao bombings.

And the government has taken significant steps to resolve the island's problems of clean drinking water and reliable sewerage system. Reyes explains that the Philippine Tourism Authority undertook the construction of a big-scale water and sewerage system in 1998 after the much-ballyhooed hospitalization of a foreign visitor said to be downed by e-coli infection after swimming in Boracay waters.

To correct the resulting damaging image after the incident was reported in newspapers and travel publications, and to proclaim to one and all that Boracay waters were safe, Philippine dailies showed pictures of then President Fidel Ramos swimming in the waters sans his unlighted cigar and then Tourism Secretary Mina Gabor emerging from the sea wearing, uh, an outfit that she otherwise would not have been caught dead in.

The water system is now fully operational. The water comes from the mainland through underwater pipes, pumped up from a river and undergoing filtering systems at source and again at the southern part of Manuk-manuk island before being distributed in Boracay. The sewerage system, now in its final stages of testing before Boracay connects to it, has a filtering system in Balabag.

The provincial government is also building a road, a 10-km stretch from Manuk-manuk to Balabag that will also service Yapak. I don't know how this road construction will be of any significance to the beach hedonists, but it will mean a lot to the residents of Boracay, many of whom are dependent on the service requirements of the pleasure and tourist business for their livelihood.

GARDEN delights among the floridly printed clothes for sale

Security in Boracay, especially after the Davao bombing, is assured by a whole Army platoon posted on both ends of the island as well as by maritime and ground forces of the national police.

It's all very assuring, of course, but there's the nagging question: How does the flagrant pleasure-seeking environment of Boracay affect the life and values of its youth, who are exposed to it day after day? This, I suppose, is as much a significant issue as safe water.

In the mornings and afternoons young students in their uniforms walk home along the beach and see the sun-worshippers in various stages of dishabille and dissipation, seemingly with no worries about where the next meal or drink, is coming from. How does this *la vida loca* affect them?

Profound questions. Paradise, or what we wish reality should be—the underpinning of Boracay—is never that simple, especially as it exists only in the mind. But while it lasts, go there. Just be careful: Don't despoil nature, culture, or youth. Simply enjoy yourself.

Le Soleil has a summer promo for three days, two nights accommodation. Log on to lesoleil@pjlhuillier.com or www.lesoleil.com.ph.

TravelBriefs

New destination

NARRA Town is the latest destination of Palawan Nature Experience (or PAX), the tour package launched this year by The Legend Hotel.

The PAX Narra Excursion takes participants to the 943-hectare Rasa Island, home of the endangered Philippine cockatoo and 87 other bird species; Arena Island, where giant sea turtles can be viewed; Crystal Paradise Resort; and Estrella Falls, considered the cleanest inland body of water in Palawan.

Other PAX tours include visits to the Underground River, Honda Bay, and Nagtabon Beach.

For inquiries, call the hotel's Manila office at 639-9256 and 58 or log on to www.experiencepalawan.com.ph.

Vacation package

WATERFRONT Insular Hotel Davao is offering special room rates for its vacation package this summer.

The rates start at P1,000 a day, covering single or twin accommodation, use of the pool, gym and jacuzzi, and roundtrip airport transfer. An addition of P299 will cover buffet breakfast at the hotel's Café Uno.

The vacation package is available until May 31. For reservations, call the hotel's Manila office (27 Fwynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Avenue, Pasig City) at 687-0888.

Safari adventure

THE ZOOBIC Safari, the latest attraction at the Subic Bay Free Port, is scheduled for public opening in the second quarter of the year.

A spin-off of Tagaytay Residence Inn and Safari de Oro Bukidnon, it will feature a tiger safari, petting zoo, serpentarium, picnic ravine, and farmhouses.

Sponsors, partners, investors and donors are welcome to be part of this wildlife project. For details, visit www.residenceinnresorts.com or call 899-9824 or 899-9595 local 349.

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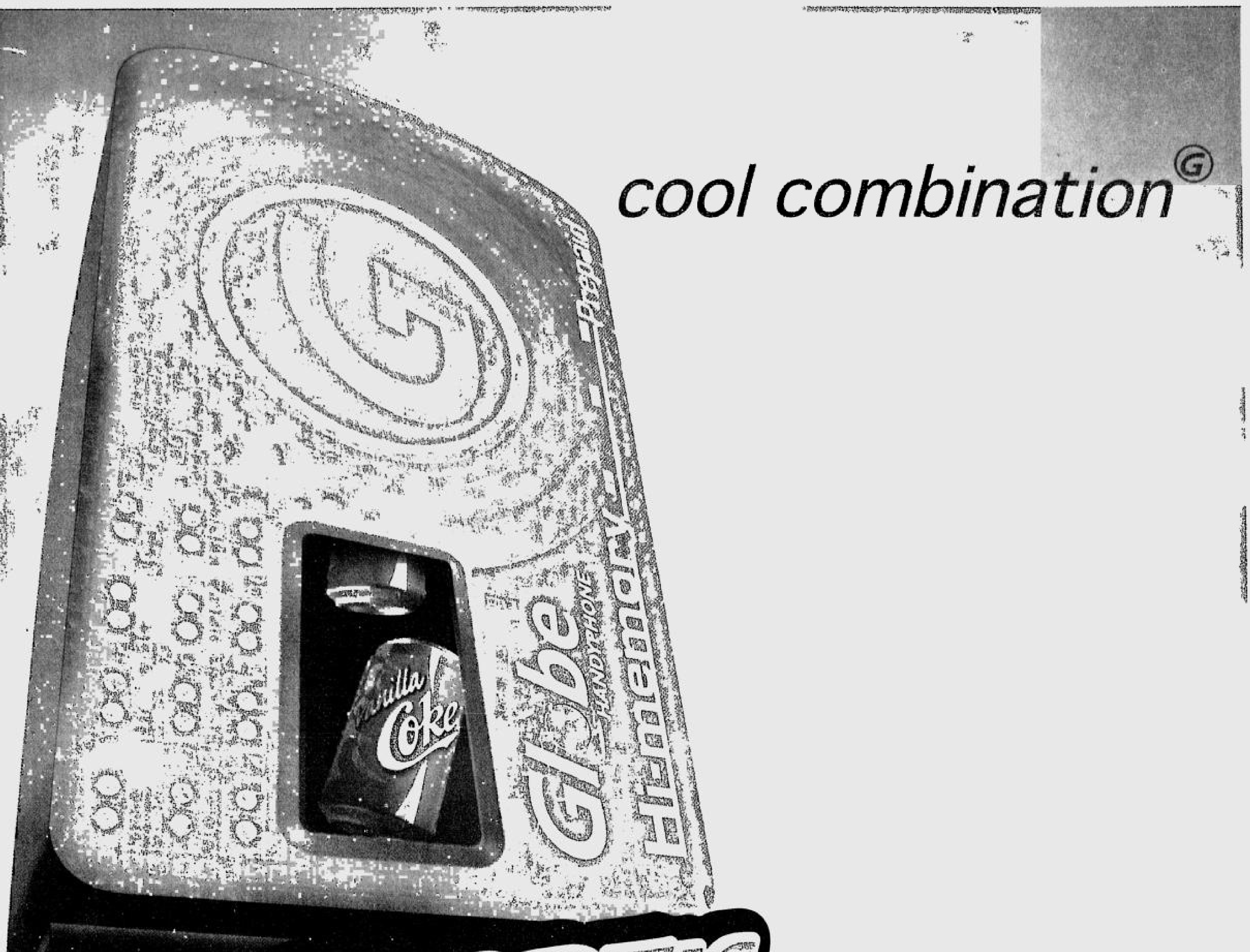

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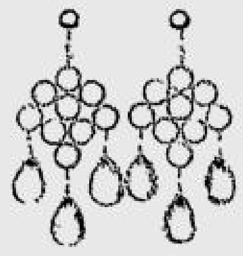
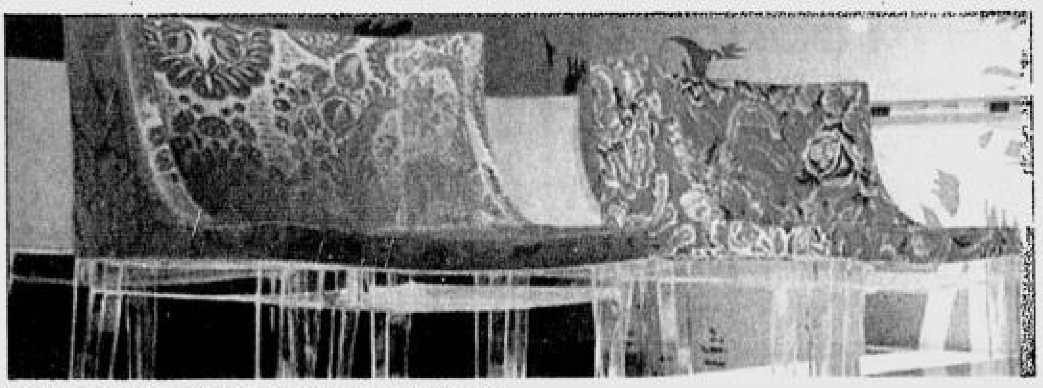
Sunday LIFESTYLE



THE CHANDELIER earrings



PHILIPPE Starck's modern baroque furniture

KAI at Greenbelt 2

Japanese resto's Nobu-like offerings and 'Sex and the City's' shocking exit

T'NT TRENDS & TRENDINGS

Anton San Diego

MUST-go-to restaurant—**Kai.** Our society is made up of finicky and spoiled individuals who claim to have seen and tasted it all. Just think how many restaurants we have in the metropolis.

So for Kai to enjoy the patronage of the Filipino's discriminating taste and to pack it in every night, there must be something in it that is a notch above the rest.

As you enter its Zen-like interiors (creatively done by Anna Sy), you know that your dining experience will be more than satisfying. The core cuisine is Japanese yet it goes beyond that, offering fares that are up to par with international standards.

The chefs have worked in the famous Nobu restaurant in New York. Must-try's are the wasabi oyster tempura, pan-seared sea bass, with shitake truffle, Ishiyaki beef cooked in flat stone, and Angus beef fried rice.

Wash them down with either hot tea or watermelon sake. For dessert, try the tofu cheesecake; it is is divine!

If you think you know everything about Japanese food, Kai's cuisine will expand your palate and knowledge even more. For reservations, call 757-2509.

Must-have shoes—Carbon. Isn't it great that our retail scene is getting more exciting and up to par with our Asian neighbors? There was a time when you really could not buy anything here. In the last three years, with the advent of creative geniuses from Wink, Tyler, Souk, etc., people looking for affordable hip, up-to-date fashion gear have been having a wild time lapping up whatever the new shops come out with.

Not far behind is Carbon, which has made an impression with its bags. Not to rest on its success, it has added great shoes for men and ladies to its line. The quality, craftsmanship and design are in tune with what you see in your favorite fashion magazines and at a price that won't make your wallet cry.

Carbon is located at Greenbelt.

Must-have accessory—Chandelier earrings. I first saw a stylish Filipina lady based in Paris wearing one of these; I really thought it was beautiful. Not only was it stylish but unique. Judging from fashion magazines, these earrings seem one of the major statements of the year. They can be real or faux, but are a standout.

Must-have furniture—Philippe Starck's baroque furniture. Nostalgia has not only affected Hollywood and fashion; it has influenced furniture design as well. During the Milan furniture fair, one design that stood out from the rest was Philippe Starck's Mademoiselle chair designed for the Kartell. What is it? It is a corset-curved polyurethane body and seat wrapped in colorful silk jacquard atop slightly splayed transparent polycarbonate legs.

Too technical? Well in my terms, it's a chair with transparent legs with baroque style fabric. It is for everyone who loves fine furniture and anything that Mr. Starck creates.

'Sex and the City' shocker. Everyone knows by now that this is the last season of "Sex and the City." So everyone is waiting with bated breath what the last 20 episodes will turn out. Here are some of the storylines that are being developed. (Warning: If you don't want to know, don't read further).

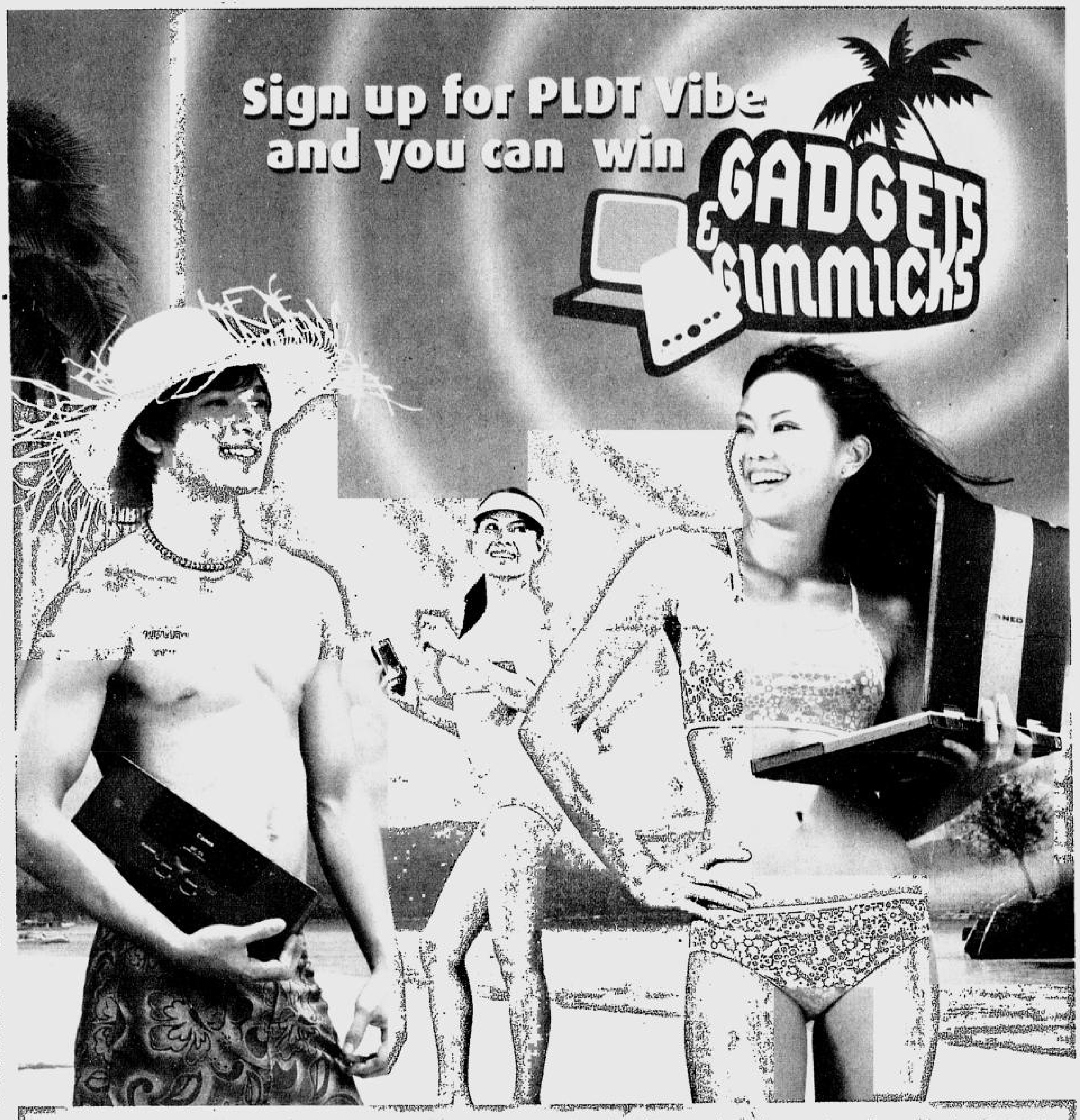
Workaholic, single mother Miranda (Cynthia Nixon) will fall in love with the father of her son; Waspy and prudish Charlotte (Kristin Davis) will marry a gym-crazy Orthodox Jew; Sexy and outspoken Samantha (Kim Catrall) is diagnosed with cancer, and neurotic Carrie (Sarah Jessica Parker) settles down with notorious playboy Mr. Big and moves to Paris to be with him.

The last episodes have not been finalized but Samantha's story line, according to sources, will become the biggest shock and eye-opener. It's worth watching, if the creative people behind the show can resolve the issue in true "Sex and the City" style—with humor and panache.

8 things we would like to see less of...

1) Filipino acting awards—Why? Credibili

JAPANESE/G2



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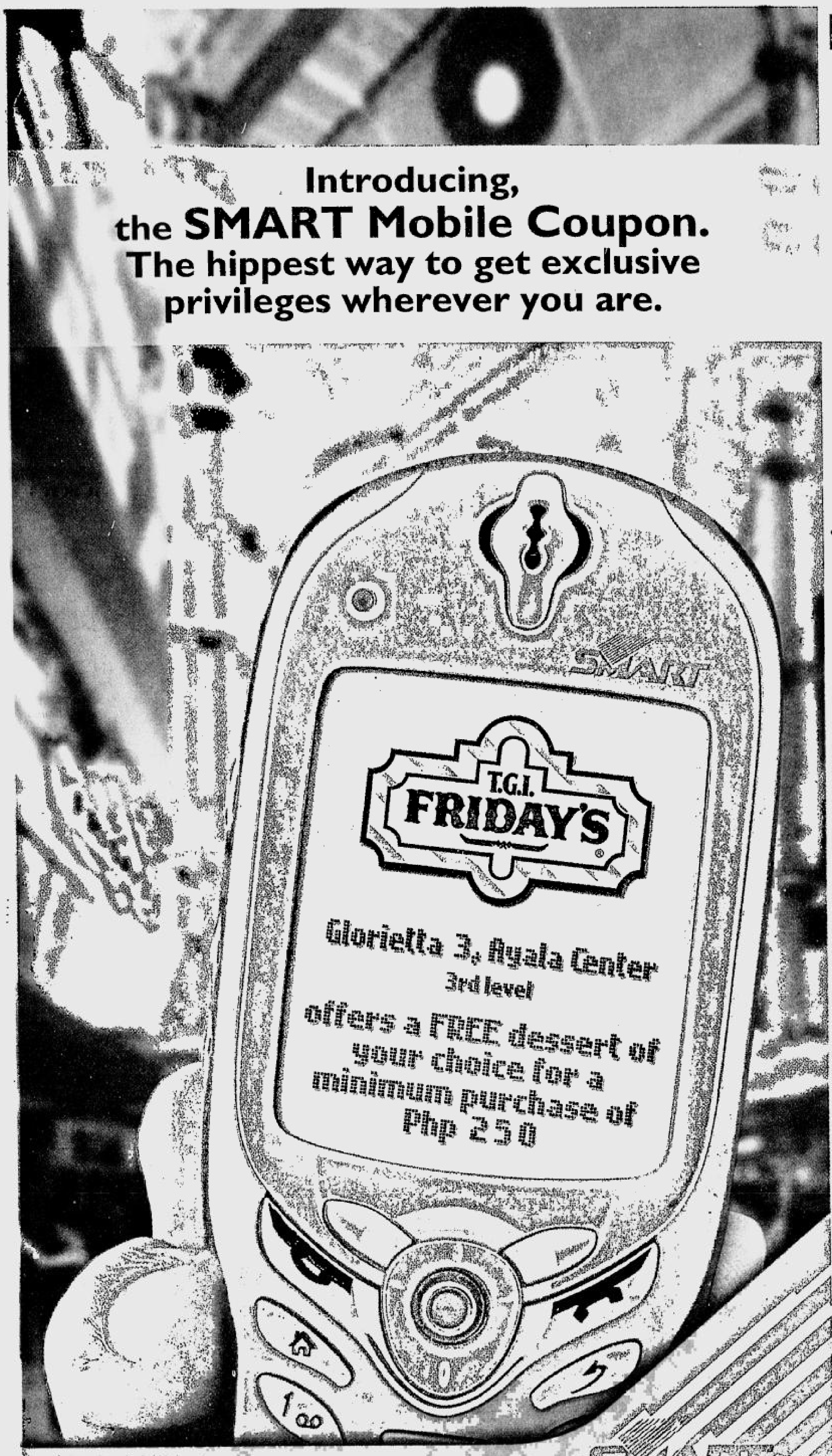
   a. Plan 20 - 1 raffle entry
   b. Plan 45 - 2 raffle entries
4. New and existing subscribers (Post Paid Plan and Pay-Per-Surf) may increase their Vibe entry/ies by referring friends to subscribe to PLDT Vibe Plan. They just have to log on to www.pldtvibe.com, click on the icon that will link them to referral page. They have to put in their friend's name, e-mail address and PLDT phone number. Every approved online referral earns them an additional Vibe entry.
5. Only entries received until May 30, 2003, 7:00pm are qualified to join.
6. Raffle entries will be drawn electronically. Draw will be held in PLDT's Main Office in Ramon Cojuangco Bldg., Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City in the presence of a DTI representative.
7. There will be five weekly draws and a grand draw scheduled as follow:

April 28 (Monday)	1st weekly draw
May 5 (Monday)	2nd weekly draw
May 12 (Monday)	3rd weekly draw
May 19 (Monday)	4th weekly draw
May 26 (Monday)	5th weekly draw
May 31 (Saturday)	Grand Draw

8. Non-winning entries per draw still qualify for the succeeding weekly draws and grand draw.
9. An applicant can only win once in a draw. If a name wins more than once, he gets the bigger prize.
10. Prizes are transferable but not convertible to cash.
11. All prizes are tax free.
12. GMA winners may claim their prize from PLDT's Marketing Services at the 5th floor of Ramon Cojuangco Bldg Dela Rosa corner Makati Avenue, Makati City. To claim the prizes, they must present valid ID and notification letter. For provincial winners, PLDT will send their respective prizes to their address via courier
13. Gift certificates are valid for one (1) year from date of issuance.
14. Redemption period for the prizes will be 60 days from notification.
15. Prizes not claimed after 60 days will be forfeited.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Field	Format
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*A maximum of 10 updates via SMS weekly

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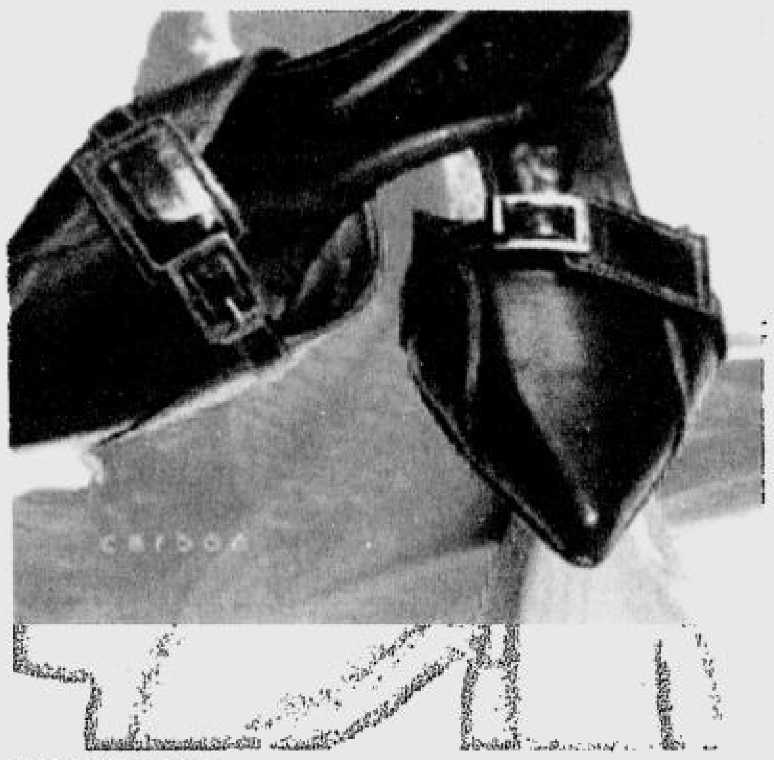


CARBON has hip, stylish men's and ladies' shoes.

Japanese . . .

From page G1

ty issues. I mean how can a bold star win the Famas especially in that outfit!

2) The TV and movie stars leaving Channel 2 for Channel 7, what do you think is the real reason?

3) Politicians who are on a comeback trail since the elections are a year from now. If they are not in office now, it's best they stay out!

4) Men and women who wear sandals or open-toed shoes only to take them off when in the restaurant or in a carpeted room. Disgusting!

5) TV series in English dubbed in Tagalog. The dubbing has murdered the show "Alias." Thank God, the show is in its original language on AXN!

6) Piolo and Juday. Are we really that naïve to think that he really likes her? How many times are we going to foolishly believe that "love teams" work? Think: Vi and Bot, Guy and Pip, Martin and Pops, Claudine and Rico, etc.

7) Fear of getting SARS. Whenever someone sneezes, everyone stops breathing or tells the sneezer, "*Baka* you have SARS." It's getting really scary. We all need to pray that they find a solution to this virus.

8) A certain presidential eager beaver's commercials that extol him to high heavens. *Malayo pa ang eleksyon. Maawa ka naman*!

E-mail the author at asd_world@hotmail.com

Simple test to help parents decide for kids

BABY Magazine's Marita Villafuerte has a simple test to help parents decide what is best for their children.

In Child Psychology 101, the columnist asks parents a series of questions that involve situations many kids have to deal with.

Villafuerte says normal adults will likely find the situations unbearable. She wonders why, if adults cannot tolerate those situations, they let their kids deal with them or stay in environments where they exist.

The entrepreneur turned educator suggests looking at things from the point-of-view of the child to better understand them and care for them. She also recommends ways to help make the child's environment more attuned to his needs.

Columnist Teresa Gustilo-Villasor talks about middle children "who have to define their place in the family.

Also in the current issue, Marivi Dizon writes about protecting the whole family's skin from the sun, Cynthia Santos Ocampo-Padilla writes about premature babies, Rome Kanapi talks about how to cure common aches and pains during pregnancy with a simple touch, while educator Nina Lim-Yuson gives tips on traveling with kids.

TECT YOUR
Y'S SKIN
S SUMME

Caregiver columnist Dr. Pangilinan-Simpao stresses the need to supervise *yaya*.

Baby Magazine is available at all SM Baby Company sections and Baby & Co. outlets in Rockwell and The Podium, National Book Store, magazine stands like Bufini, kiddie specialty shops like Babyland, Maxibear. Subscriptions are also available at 751-3655 to 56.

metro
SPECIAL ANNIVERSARY ISSUE
Metro celebrities:
Sharon Cuneta
14TH YEAR POWER COVER:

Mag waxes nostalgic

METRO Magazine, your guide to intelligent lifestyle, marks a milestone with its nostalgic 14th anniversary issue.

Personalities who had graced its covers in the past—Sen. Loren Legarda, comic icon Dolphy, veejay and model Sara Meier, actress and entrepreneur Joyce Jimenez, superstar Nora Aunor, maverick designer Inno Sotto, super chef Margarita Fores and consummate actress and model Angel Aquino—got together for a once-in-a-lifetime cover shoot.

The magazine goes down memory lane with vintage photographs, traces the magazine's evolution into a lifestyle medium and fondly recalls people who helped shape the magazine.

In the same issue, Metro goes to Boracay for the annual summer swimsuit shoot. Miss Earth 2002 Dzejla Glavovich leads the beach bodies. Beauty stories focus on summer essentials like what to eat for great skin. There is also a special spa indulgence for expectant mothers.

Metro's April issue is available at bookstores and magazine outlets.

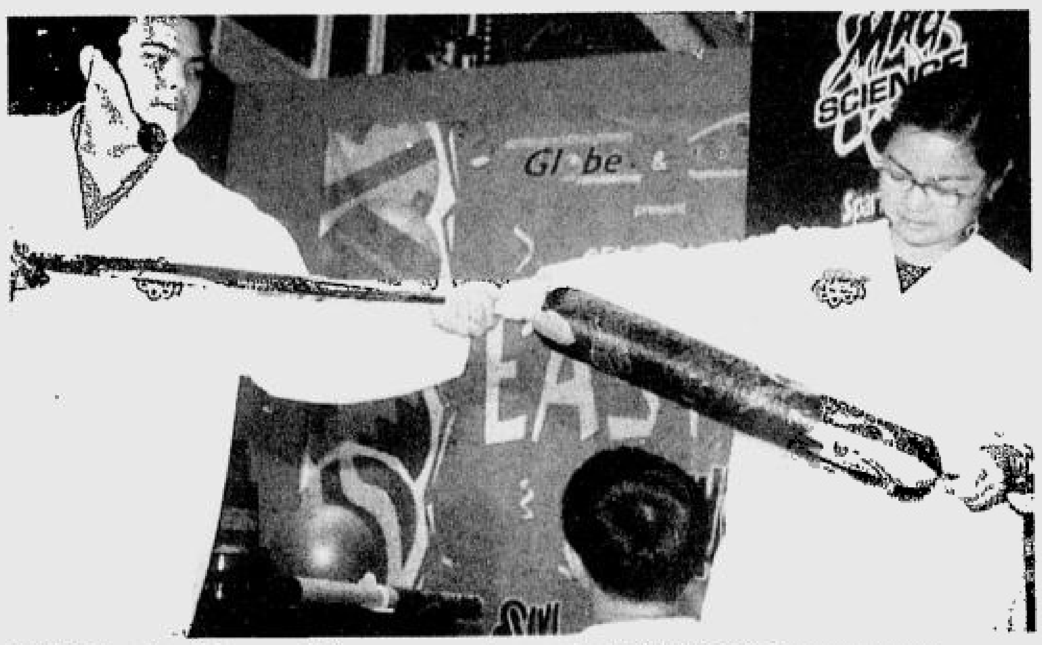
THESE kids enjoy the "heaven effect" performed by a Mad Science instructor.

Workshops give kids productive summer

ALL SM Supermalls are conducting summer workshops for kids.

The Mad Science Workshop, organized by the Mad Science group, involves experiments like the Bubbling Potion and Slippery Slime to help make learning science both cool and intriguing. The workshops are scheduled April 29 and May 1 at SM City North-Edsa and SM City Pampanga; May 5, 7, 12 and 14 at SM City Fairview and SM City Pampanga; and May 20-22 at SM City Manila and SM Supercenter Sucat. All activities are scheduled from 1-7 p.m.

Singing workshops provide lessons ranging from solo to choir and chorale group arrangements. Dancing workshops will be conducted by the group Whiplash and will include ballroom dancing, April 26-30; and tap dancing April 28. Dance lessons are scheduled at 10:30 a.m.-12 nn, 2:30-4 p.m., and 6-7:30 p.m.



MAD Scientists Palmer and Rizza measure how much air is inside this plastic balloon

Arts and crafts classes include pastel coloring and Crayola on April 29 to be held at all malls except SM City North-Edsa and SM City Pampanga; and drawing, sketching and charcoal painting, also on April 29, 2:30-4 p.m. to be held at all SM Supermalls.

Faber Castell is also hosting a three-day workshop in animation and imagination for both its Faber Castell Little Masters Club members, as well as other interested kids. Workshop schedule is: May 1-3, SM City Manila; May 8-10, SM Megamall; May 15-17, SM Southmall; May 22-24, SM City Fairview; and May 29-31, SM City Pampanga.

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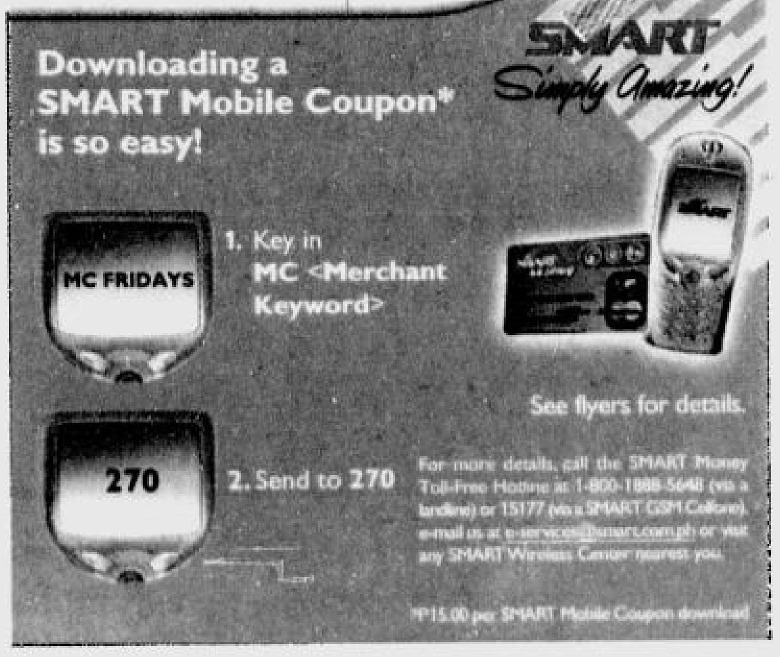
National Sports Grill Any of the following for FREE for a single receipt purchase of P600: Grand Prix Cheesecake, Pepperoni Pizza, Bucket of 4 local beers, Angel Hair Pomodoro or FREE 1 hour use of the Billiards Table Keyword: NSG	Dusit Hotel Nikko 15% discount at any of Dusit Hotel Nikko's specialty restaurants (Benjarong, Benkay, Thien Duong, Lobby Lounge, Paulaner Brauhaus, The Café Restaurant) Keyword: DUSIT	TOKYO TOKYO Great Great JAPANESE Free Yakisoba for every P100 purchase Keyword: TOKYO
Seattle's Best Coffee Free hot drink for any purchase of a light meal (sandwich or salad) Keyword: SBC	RACKS BEST RIBS IN TOWN Buy 4 meals and get the 5th meal for free Keyword: RACKS	20% discount on food & beverage Keyword: SANMIG
Popeyes Chicken & Biscuits Free large Calamari for a minimum purchase of any Cajun combo meal Keyword: POPEYES	CINNABON The World Famous Original Free iced tea for every purchase of any plate of cinnabon rolls Keyword: CINNABON	Richmonde Grill 15% discount for diners availing of the Chef's Dinner Special Keyword: RICHGRILL

LEISURE & HEALTH

Enchanted Kingdom Buy one Ride-All ticket and get one FREE Keyword: EK	Island Cove Resort and Leisure Park Book 1 night and get the 2nd night FREE if it falls between Sun -Thur or get a 50% discount if the 2nd night falls on a Fri or Sat. Plus, get a FREE breakfast for 2 on the 2nd day Keyword: ICOVE	DAYS HOTEL The World's Largest and Fastest-Growing Hotel Chain 30% off on room accommodation based on rack rate + 10% discount on food & beverage, laundry, business center services and the spa Keyword: DAYS
WATERFRONT 50% off on room accommodation based on rack rate Keyword: WATERFRONT	alegre BEACH RESORT 50% off the published rates, 30% off on aqua sports, FREE round-trip transfers and sunset cruise Keyword: ALEGRE	OCEANIA 50% discount on the regular rates for a maximum of 2 people (at Island Cove Resort & Leisure Park) Keyword: OCEANIA
Hertz WORLD'S #1 CAR RENTAL 30% discount on all regular rates Keyword: HERTZ	MANILA SOUTHWOODS MANOR 40% discount off the published rates Keyword: SOUTHWOODS	ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD Free softdrinks & popcorn for every movie ticket purchase (1 offer per transaction only) Keyword: RMOVIE
Free Daytona Ride Keyword: POWERSTATION	KIDS WORK Free 30 minutes for every 1 hour spent Keyword: K@W	ISLAND SONGS FAMILY KTV 15% discount on total table bill (at Island Cove Resort & Leisure Park) Keyword: ISONGS

SHOPPING

TOBY'S FREE game at the basketball shootout (1 game per person) at all Toby's Sports Arena stores and a 10% discount on cash purchases of regular items Keyword: TOBYS	plains & prints 15% off on regular items (excluding Eve Perfumes) Keyword: P&P
MARKS & SPENCER Free lavander bath crystal or bath soak for a minimum purchase of P600 worth of white scents, greenscents, rosewater and lavander (lotion, soap, spray, oil, crystal, shower gel, foam bath, hand wash) Keyword: M&S	e-2-door.com 40% discount on shipping and handling fees for purchases above $200 or 20% discount on shipping & handling fees for purchases below $200 Keyword: E2DOOR



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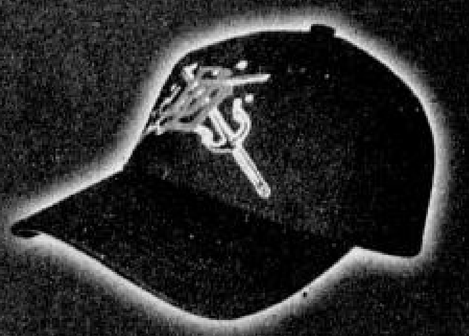

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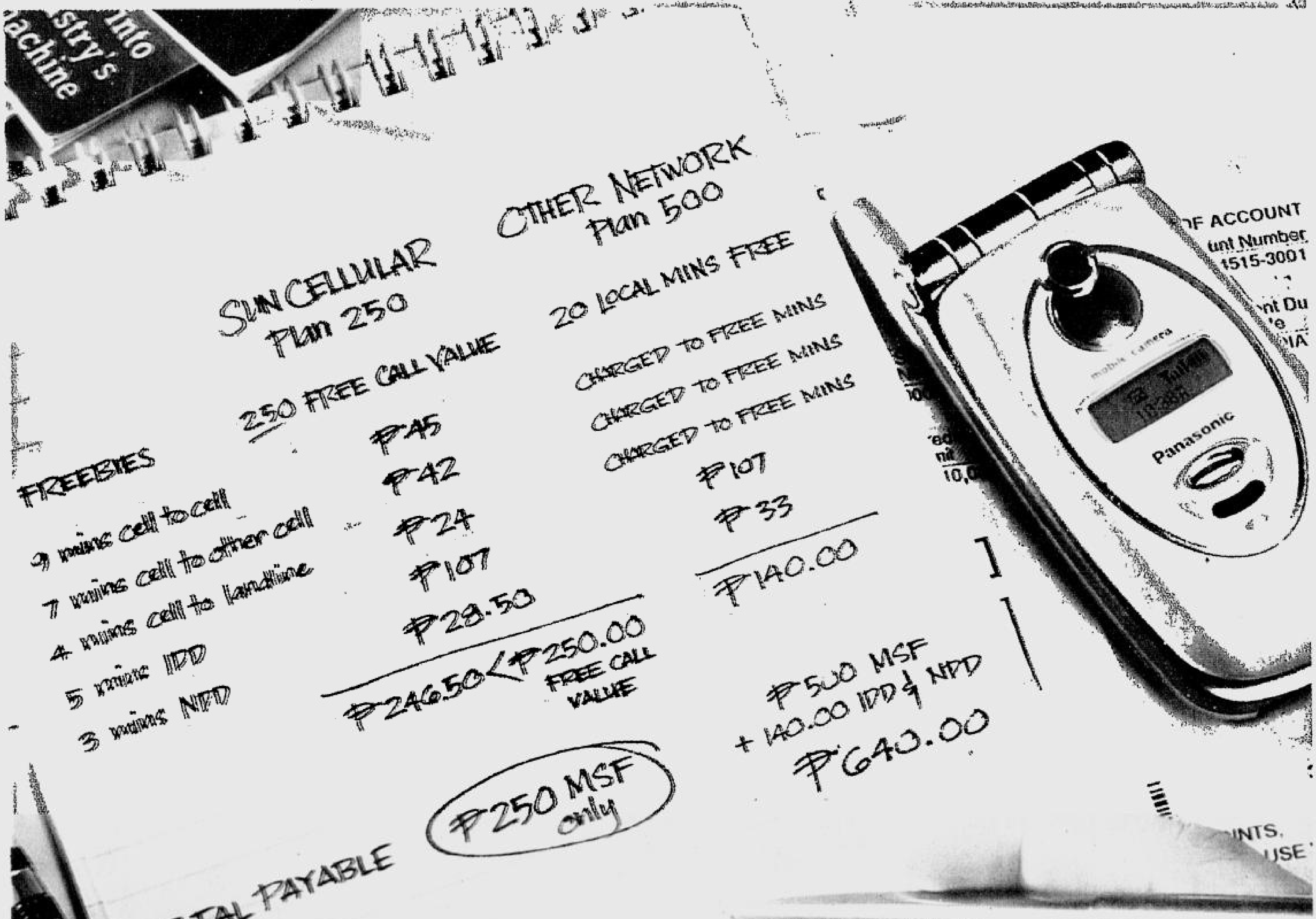
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7 mins cell to other cell ₱42 CHARGED TO FREE MINS
4 mins cell to landline ₱24 CHARGED TO FREE MINS
5 mins IDD ₱107 ₱107
3 mins NDD ₱28.50 ₱33
₱246.50 < ₱250.00 FREE CALL VALUE
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Descent into Palau's under(water)world

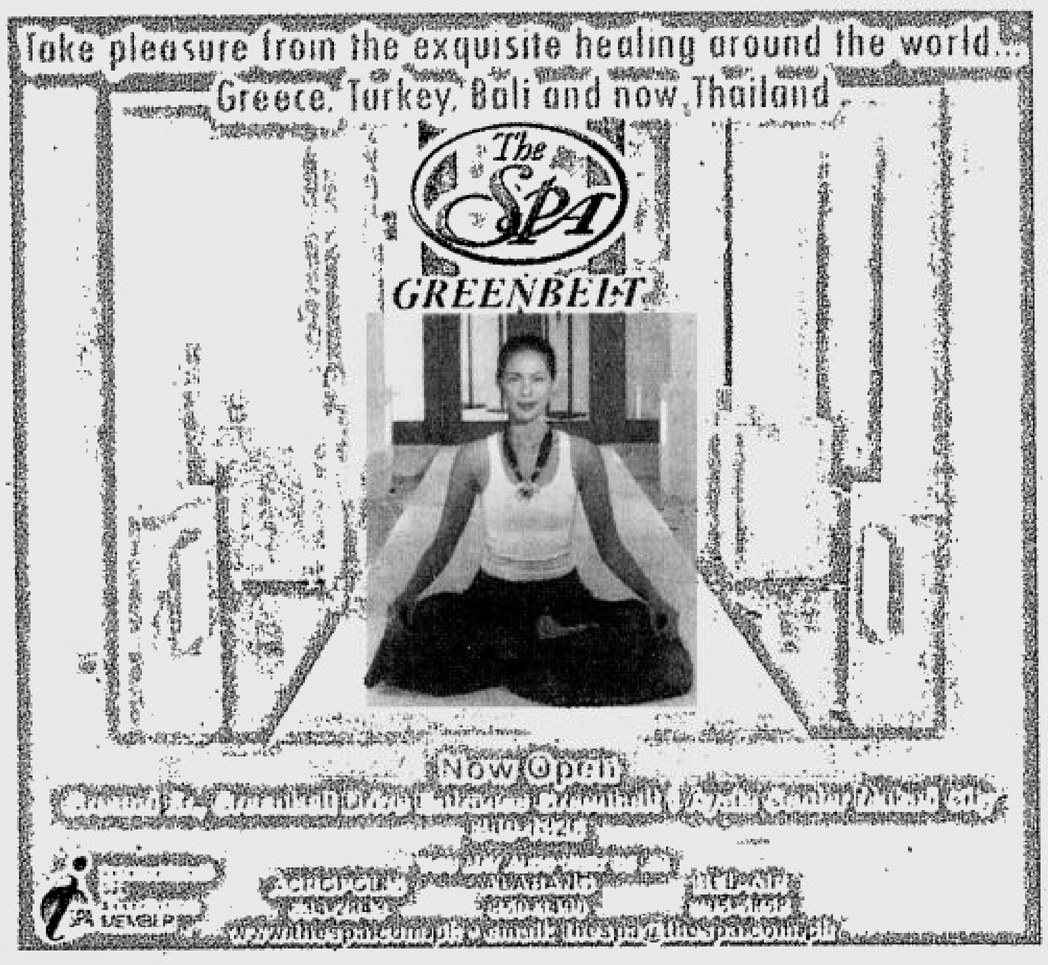
The island republic is highly rated by both novice and expert divers

By Tessa Prieto-Valdes

THE ROCK islands are a diver's, kayaker's, nature lover's paradise.

Palau, an island republic in Micronesia, is possibly the most awesome scuba diving

DESCENT/ H2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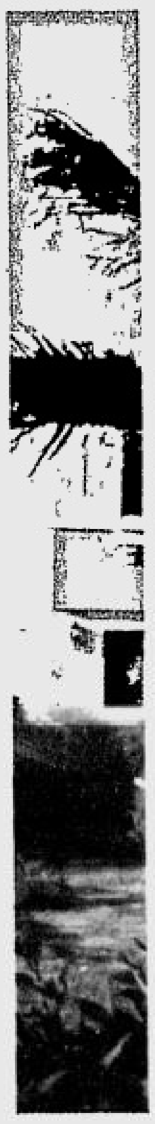

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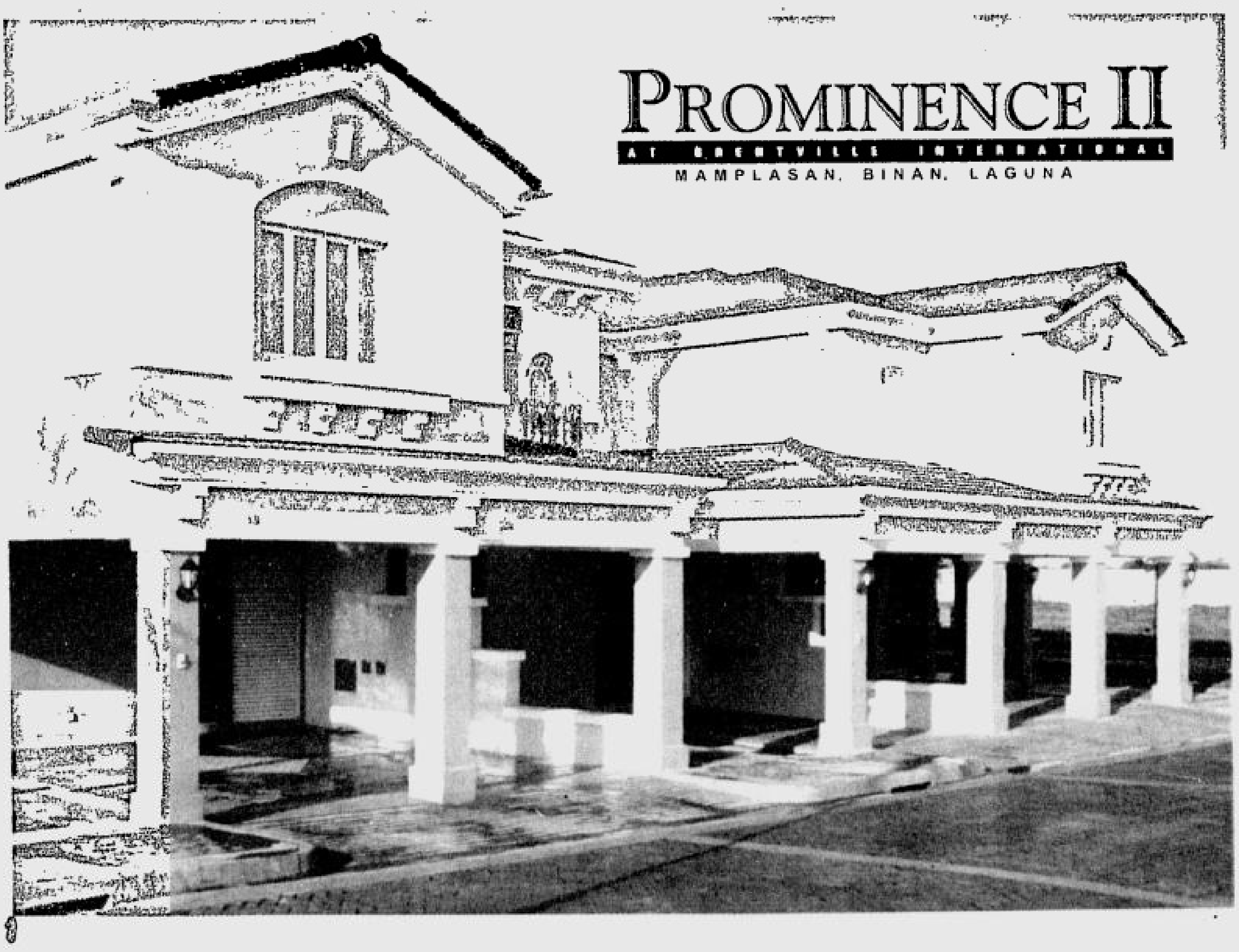

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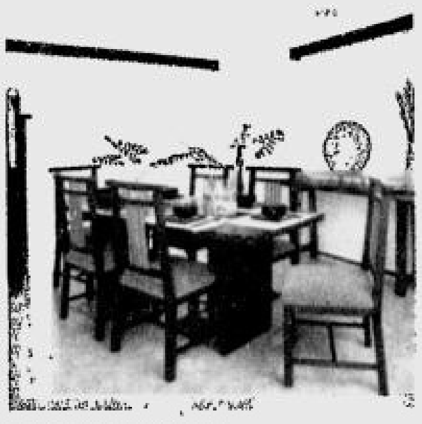
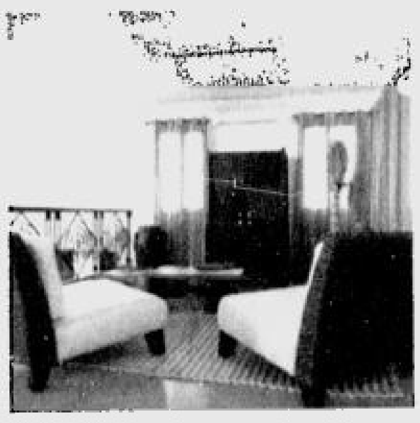

Formal dining area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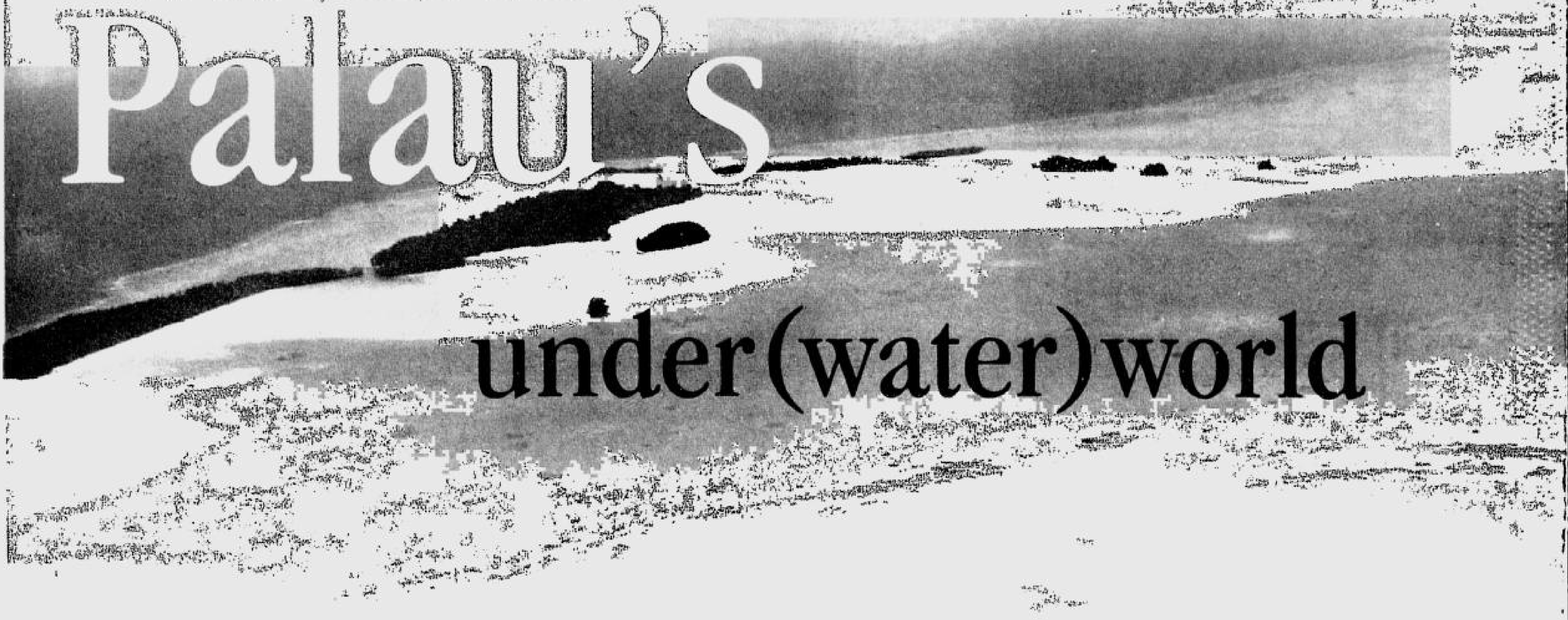
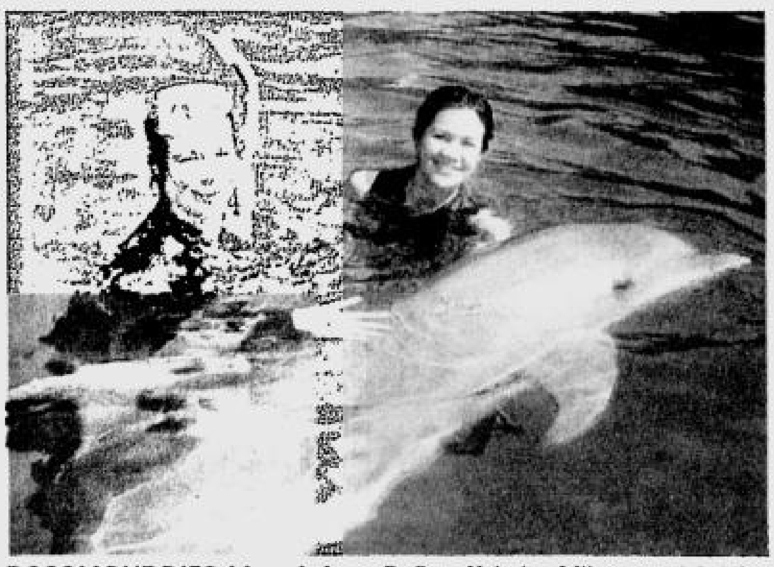
Descent into Palau's under(water)world



OMBUD: PROBE
ALVIN, DARZA

BRINGING the news with them are Mayor Tommy and Margot Osmeña of Cebu.

THERE ARE WILD THINGS ON LAND. Jon-jon and I take a break from the boat to frolic in sand.



BOSOM BUDDIES. Mary de Leon Rufino, Kristina Mijares and Ariel

WHO'S WATCHING WHOM? A dolphin lingers, just as curious about the strange divers.

From page H1

location in the world. With its diverse and abundant marine life, it is highly rated by avid divers, novice and expert alike.

Palau is only about 500 miles east of Davao, a 2½-hour plane ride from Manila.

My husband **Dennis** and I met and fell in love—even spent our honeymoon nine years ago—underwater. We were on the Palau Aggressor, a live-aboard yacht that offered five dives a day for a week. Needless to say, after that, I demanded a real honeymoon just for hugging and kissing.

Since then, we have returned a number of times with a diving core group composed of my aunt, **Mary de Leon Rufino**; her son, **Jon-jon**; and his stepsister, **Kris Mijares**. For our diving expedition this year, we spent a week on board the Ocean Hunter, a small yacht that sleeps six divers and three crew members.

For the past three trips, our sixth diver has varied. First was **Gigi Santos, President Arroyo's** scuba instructor and matchmaker to Dennis and me. Next was the late **Paco Ortigas**, who supplied us fresh sushi on board, thanks to his fishing skills.

This year, our sixth member was **Jojo Eduque Castro**, who is so cool in part because she sports two turtle tattoos despite being in her early 50s.

Ce-boom delegation

On board Continental Air Micronesia, we noticed a large delegation from Cebu headed by the city's Mayor **Tommy Osmeña** and his perky wife, **Margot**. Also with them was Tommy's sister, **Minnie Osmeña**, who was on my best-dressed list at **Ruffa** and **Yilmaz's** wedding.

The Cebu delegation was going to Palau for the first time, not to dive, but on the invitation of Palau Gov. **Johnny Gibbons**. Later that evening, we joined them for a dinner hosted by Palau President **Tommy Remengesau** at the Palau Pacific Resort. The PPR's claim to fame is its being where **John F. Kennedy Jr.** and **Darryl Hannah** of "Splash" fame spent a romantic vacation in the early '90s. So there is some kind of social life there to write about!

There are only 18,000 Palauans, and since most of the islanders either leave or work in fishing or tourism-related businesses, there is a shortage of professional workers. And since Pinoys are resourceful and hard-working, we now have 8,000 OFWs there.

Our chef on board, **Arlee Terunez**, was Filipino. He was so organized that he could bring aboard a week's supply of food and feed us so much that even the vegetarians in the group gained weight (thanks also to our daily dose of vanilla ice cream with chocolate syrup).

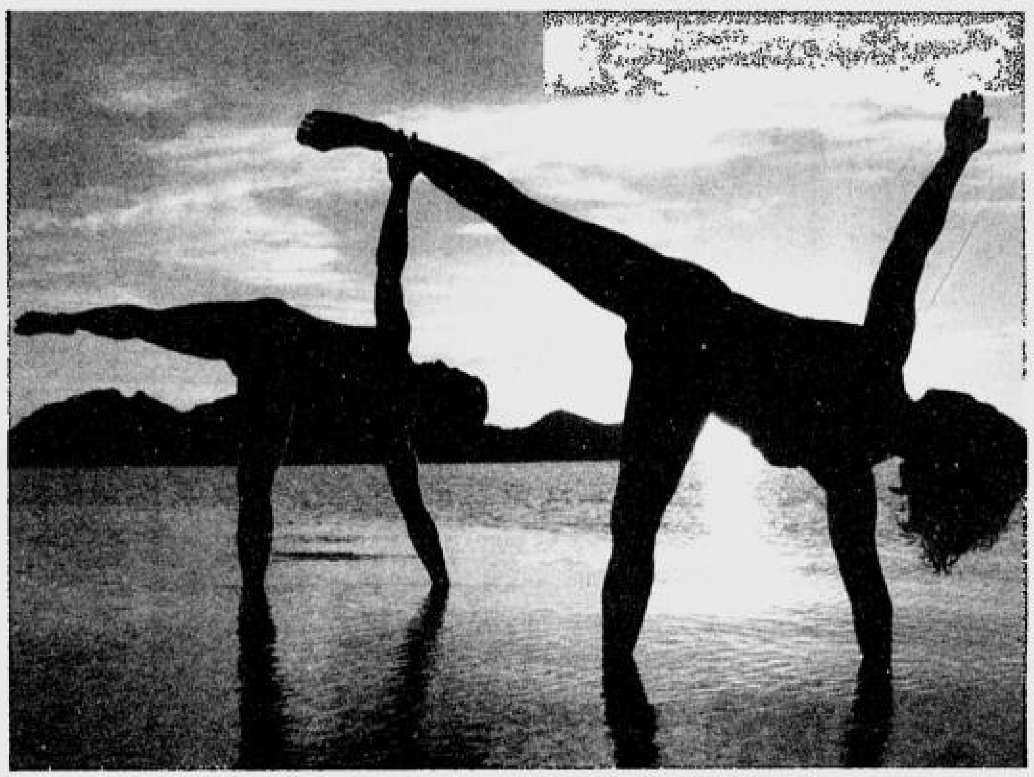
Survival test

If you can survive a week on open water (a Bonamine pill at the start should do the trick) living on board a 64-foot yacht where you shower in the open and have to make do with a compact toilet (showering while sitting on the toilet is actually possible, ugh!), then this diving adventure is for you. Here's a sample log entry from our trip:

Day 3: At our first dive for the day at Ngedebus Corner, there were huge barracudas sitting patiently while getting groomed by cleaner wrasse, ignoring a buffet assortment of butterfly fish, parrot fish, trigger fish and soldier fish.

Suddenly, Jon-jon pointed to dolphins near the surface. Our yacht's captain, **Kenneth Johnny**, had been "herding" them to us as the dolphins playfully jumped the waves in front of the boat's bow. We got more dolphin action after surfacing when about eight to 10 of them swam with us to the next dive site, Peleliu Express.

Peleliu, lying near the southern tip of the barrier reef, has a sheltered cove where we stayed in between dives. It was a fortunate break for **Jean Nadao**, our group's physical therapist (who also dived for the first time in between barfing) and **Tess Roquetta**, our masseuse (isn't it heavenly—a massage after all the dives?). Both depleted our Bonamine supply before they felt well enough to do line fishing.



ISLANDS IN THE SUN. There's always time to connect with the universe in nature.

SMILING pretty, Margot and Minnie Osmeña at a diplomatic dinner with Palau bigwigs

PALAU isn't only about diving. There are breathtaking vistas between the rip-roaring currents.

An interesting side note, Peleliu was the site of one of the bloodiest battles fought in the Pacific during World War II. On the island are several war wrecks like old tanks and Japanese bunkers. But even more interesting is that marijuana plants were introduced there 20 years ago and, in spite of efforts to stop the cultivation, they still thrive there. So much for the flora and fauna of Palau.

During our midday dives, the strong currents brought turtles, big groupers (known to us as *lapu-lapu*) and gray reef sharks—major hunting action. Swimming against the current was quite challenging but a good experience.

Before Arlee's Mediterranean dinner, we did a night dive at Orange Beach seeing interesting night creatures such as tiger cowrie (so tempting but illegal to take home), yellow sea hares, albino leaf fish and sleeping parrot fish. On the gorgonians and other soft coral, we found sponge crabs, Lambis shells and colorful nudibranchs (these invertebrates are hermaphrodites—they have both male and female sex organs and choose their sex when they meet another member of their species. Now isn't that clever!).

After the meal, Kris and I teamed up for an intense game of Scrabble (is "qadi" really acceptable?).

Day 7: Almost dived out but still enjoying since we were on Nitrox tanks, our pre-breakfast dive was in Ulong Channel. Though mornings are not my fave time of the day, this site is one of the best locations. Upon entry, we spotted a mama giant, thorny stingray resting on the sandy bottom. Our dive master, **Troy Ngiraikelau** (funny guy with "TROY" tattooed on his back in case we forgot his name), said she might be protecting her newborn.

Drifting through the Ulong Channel was

TOVA and Navot Bornovski, proprietors of the Ocean Hunter, extending a warm welcome.

like watching that aquarium station on television. The channel was so panoramic with a wall of lettuce coral, giant clams (so big the Sea Princess would probably fit in one) and color-changing octopus.

On the next dive in Shark City, both my Tita Mary and I touched a leopard shark as it was ascending after its sleep was interrupted by Dennis' video taking. The dive ended with a fleeting glimpse of a small eagle ray rapidly flying away.

Tita Mary thought she was finning fast enough to keep up with the eagle ray but it turned out that Troy was actually dragging her along!

Blue Corner is the best dive site in Palau. It is a wall dive where schools of gray reef sharks move up close and personal while hunting schools of skipjacks. Swirling barracudas, dogtooth tuna and giant trevally join in the action. The Palauans invented the reef hook for this dive. Hook on at 33 feet and you can stay for over an hour watching the pelagic hunters.

If the hunting action gets boring, a large, resident Napoleon wrasse (fondly called Nap) will hang around begging for sausages. My Tita Jojo Castro tried feeding Nap but didn't let go of the food fast enough so she was terrified when Nap briefly sucked in her hand. Good thing Nap does not eat Pinoys.

Before ascending, two huge eagle rays tried to get friendly with us but Jon came closest, thanks to his super long fins. With the multitude of marine life and the camaraderie on the Ocean Hunter, I really thank God for being able to experience His wonderful, colorful world.

RP-made souvenir

Since the flights to Manila are only twice a week, we spent two more days at the PPR and shopped for souvenir items (though most are "made in the PI," as the OFWs say). We also spent a day at Dolphin Adventure, where the founder of Sony set up a facility enabling people, including the handicapped, to interact with the dolphins.

CAPT. Kenneth Johnny plans a dive with Dennis and Jon-jon.

We also went to Jellyfish Lake in the Rock Islands. The lake is inhabited by thousands of jellyfish which, having been locked in the lake for centuries, have lost their ability to sting. I was just happy to use the silicone-like animals as reference in deciding what boob size would look great. The jellyfish ranged from pebble-sized to Dolly Parton specials.

On our last day, **Navot** and **Tova Bornovski** of Fish 'N Fins (operators of the Ocean Hunter) came by to do sunset photos with floral head crowns, which are typical of Palau. We have become friends through the years and have them over for dinner when they are in Manila. They come quite often to shop and for medical or dental services.

If you want to feel better about the progress in the Philippines, go visit Palau.

Flying back home, I glanced at the Philippine waters and noticed several barrier reefs and sandy beaches. I am sure those would be exceptional dive spots for liveaboards to visit. Think of the additional foreign exchange they would bring plus the jobs they would generate. Unfortunately, security and political instability pose tourism problems, don't they?

Well, I say, never lose hope. We just need to market ourselves better to the world! Maybe we should ask Mayor Tommy Osmeña what he learned in Palau!

E-mail the author at seaprincess@inquirer.com.ph

BASKING in the sun after a dive, the ladies of the sea: Jojo Castro, Kristina Mijares, the Sea Princess and Mary de Leon Rufino

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

M	A	R	I	N	A	■	T	A	G	■	S	N	O	W	■	G	O	N	E	R
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Barbie
sweet summer stylin'

Thames International Business School delivers its promise:

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"Filipinos can afford studying abroad. I didn't think it was possible at first, but here I am now." This was the remark made by Jojan Juson, one of Thames International Business School's (Thames) students completing her degree in the UK. Jojan is taking up Business and Information Technology in the University of Portsmouth (UK) and will be part of only a handful of Filipinos to finish college abroad...at least for now.

A few years ago, a high quality college degree from a reputable university abroad was close to unreachable. This was mainly due to the high cost of tuition and the cost of living overseas; only those who had the resources were able to go.

Well, not anymore. Thames, with its innovative system and globally recognized curriculum effectively cut the cost of a foreign degree in half. Students take the first two years locally, and finish the final 1 – 2 years in any of the affiliate universities in the UK, Australia, Canada, New Zealand, or the US. This year, the Thames community eagerly awaits the next batch of graduates from the UK.

With the innovative system of Thames, students are taught "how to think" and not "what to think". Students are bound to know not only the theories but also the application of the concepts learned in class.

> **Thames, with its innovative system and globally recognized curriculum effectively cut the cost of a foreign degree in half.**

To prepare the students for a challenging life abroad, they are groomed to better adjust in a different country. They go through leadership seminars and are subjected to high-impact values-formation activities that develop strength of character. A challenging atmosphere and a culture of excellence is also promoted within campus walls; from the professors, to the classrooms, to the lessons taught. "We prepare the students to become challenge oriented," explains Thames' Director, Mr. Joel Santos. "Only when they are prepared mentally and emotionally will they be able to excel overseas."

More than a school, Thames has effectively become a community, a microcosm of the world that the students and teachers move in. Once in the UK, the earlier batches help the newer students adjust to life abroad.

Earlier this year, a new batch of students from Thames left the country to pursue their dreams of earning a foreign degree. "We are extremely proud of the performance of our students in the UK. We have received word from our affiliates that they are doing very well, and are performing admirably," says Thames' President, Vivienne Tan. She is confident that the future batches will be able to excel as their earlier counterparts too. "It is a dream come true not only for the students, but for us educators as well, to see them go abroad. Because we feel that for every fulfilled dream is a fulfilled promise from us to provide a better way of earning quality education overseas," Tan ended.

It can be done!

For more information about Thames and possible scholarship oppurtunities, interested students and parents can visit the Thames Eastwood Campus, or call 687-4736 to 37.

Below is a partial list of Thames students currently studying abroad:

New Zealand	
JOSE PAULO BORJA	Massey University
Australia	
JR FAJARDO	Central Queensland University
MARICAR MILAN	Central Queensland University
MICHELLE GO	University of Southern Queensland
MABELLE GENEVIEVE ANG	Curtin University of Technology
United Kingdom	
JEDFREY TAN	University of Portsmouth
CHRISTIAN PAUL CHAN	Middlesex University
CHRISTIAN AUGUSTUSS BERGARA	University of Portsmouth
JOJAN PAULA JUSON	University of Portsmouth
JEREMY NGAW	University of Portsmouth
JENNY ONG	University of Portsmouth
MARCAINE NG	University of Hertfordshire
SHAINA REGINA SAMIA	University of Hertfordshire
MA. THERESA LEUNG	University of Portsmouth
ROSEMARIE BONIFACIO	Middlesex University
RONA LISSA GUINTO	Oxford Brookes University
MELVIN GAW	Oxford Brookes University
MARINA SURLA	University of Portsmouth
KERRI GAIL ONG	University of Portsmouth
JOHN JOSEPH PEREZ	University of Hertfordshire
GAMALIEL GABRIENTO	University of Plymouth
ELEAZAR LAMPA	University of Portsmouth
ALVIN TAN	University of Hertfordshire
RICHARD FRANCIS PANGANIBAN	University of Portsmouth
JOHN PACIFIC CASTRO	University of Hertfordshire
ANWILLSUN SO	Oxford Brookes University
MARK SENG	Middlesex University
ALEXANDER APOLLO ARELLANO	University of Portsmouth
ABIGAIL PENALOSA	University of Portsmouth
MA. KATRINA VILLARICO	Coventry University
TEDDY CHENG	Thames Valley University
IELEEN ELIZABETH DELA CRUZ	University of Hertfordshire
DEEPTI SELOPAL	Middlesex University
JASMINE NGO	Oxford Brookes University
ANDERSON TAN	Oxford Brookes University
KRISTINE BARANGAN	Middlesex University

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Sunday LI

HERRERA-TEE TEN

Wedding is captured in black and white

NEWLYWEDS Robbie and Gigi

Text and photos by Mandy Navasero

BLACK-AND-WHITE photographs, whether vintage or modern, are very dramatic.

Not surprisingly, interior designer Gigi Q. Tee Ten opted to have her wedding photographs in black and white.

Ten, a graduate of the Mandy Navasero Summer 2000 Photo Workshop, married recently longtime beau Robbie H. Herrera at the St. James the Great Parish in Alabang. In her Rhett Eala bridal gown, the bride looked, well, picture perfect.

Officiating priest was Father Chito Bernardo. Among the principal sponsors were Mariano Herbosa, Dr. Miguel Celdran, Steve Hontiveros, Pedro Yap, Ambassador Rora Tolentino (represented by Marlene Mondoñedo), Victoria Maniquis, Zenaida Tantoco and Elisa Chong.

The bride is the daughter of the late Crispin and Benita Tee Ten while the groom is the on-

WEDDING/ 12

GIGI with matrons of honor Ellen Yap-Te and Mita Colet-Montinola

DR. RUDY and Monina Herrera

NEDY Tantoco and Marlene Mondoñedo

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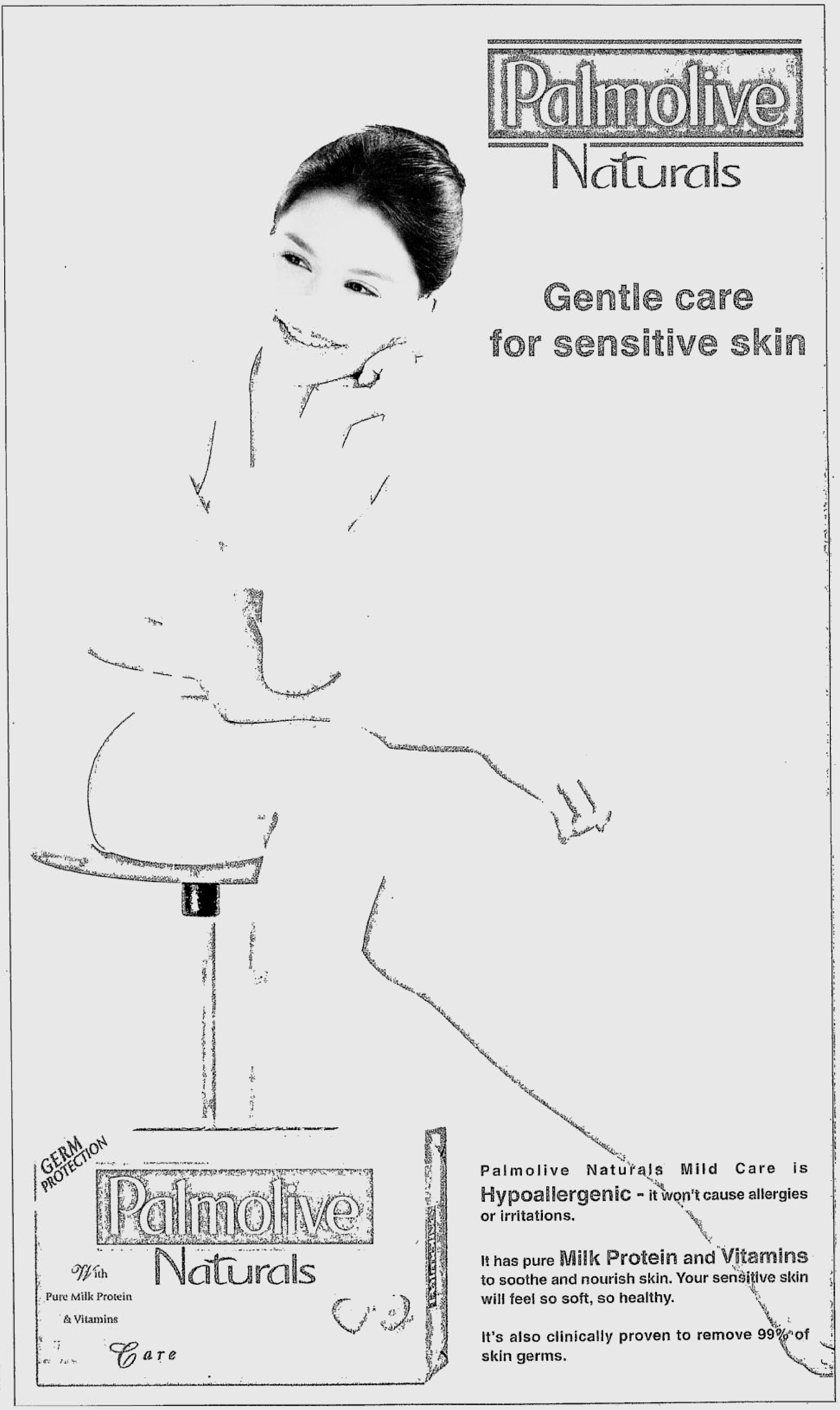

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THE NEWLYWEDS with the Herrera family: (from left) Anton and Nina Huang with daughter Nikki, Dr. Rudy Herrera, Monina Herrera, and Michael and Pinky Brady

Wedding is captured in black and white

From page 11

ly son of Dr. Rodolfo and Monina Herrera. Reception was held at the ballroom of the Ayala Alabang Country Club. Chairs were by Maru de Ocampo Banquet, while the ensemble and flowers were by Judith Zapanta.

Guests included Miriam Quiambao of GMA-7, Cricket Yu Tantoco, the bride's photography classmates Nena Ortoll and Len Lopez.

The newlyweds first met in 1988 as college freshmen taking up BS Mathematics in De la Salle University (DLSU).

After graduation, she went to the Philippine School of Interior Design (PSID) and received an Interior Design degree. He, on the other hand, finished his masters at the Asian Institute of Management (AIM).

WITH FLOWER girls Nadine Tee Ten and Nikki Huang; bearers Stephan Lhuillier, Wayne Tee Ten and Ryan Chua; (behind) Chariesse Puentespina, Nats Montecastro and Joey Soriano

THE COUPLE with the Tee Ten family: (from left) Shirley Tee Ten-Enriquez, Nats Tee Ten-Montecastro, Linda Tee Ten-Chua, Beneta Tee Ten, Joseph Enriquez, Willy Tee Ten and Danny Chua

THE BRIDE in a Rhett Eala gown.

THE COUPLE with Miriam Quiambao, Nena Ortoll, Hiro Onodera, Len Len Lopez and Mandy Navasero

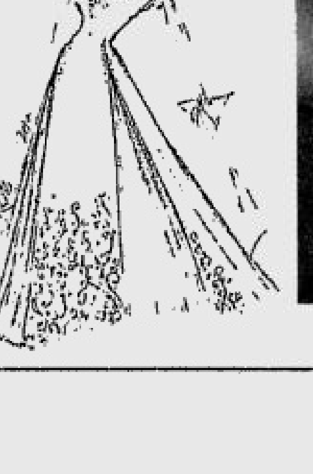
WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL sponsors: Zenaida Tantoco, Marlene Mondoñedo (proxy to Ambassador Rora Tolentino), Victoria Maniquis, Elisa Chong, Pedro Yap, Stephen Hontiveros, Dr. Miguel Celdran and Mariano Herbosa

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.

PELAYO ANNIVERSARY

Froilan and **Rita Pelayo** of Makato, Aklan, celebrated their 30th wedding anniversary on April 22. Thanksgiving Masses were offered at the Manila, Kalibo and Naga cathedrals. The couple has four children: **Mariflor,** who is married to **Arlon;** Alan, [illegible] and Frederick



SANTIAGO DEBUT

Crystal Ivy Santiago, daughter of **Delfin Santiago** and **Yolly Belo,** celebrated her 18th birthday on April 26 at Jade Valley, QC. Crystal, a fourth year high school student at Chiang Kai Shek College, will wear a turquoise princess cut iridescent gown with a long train. The gown was designed **by Paul Rex Mateo.**

LLANES - FONTANILLA

Joel Llanes, son of **Efren** and **Predes Llanes,** married **Julienne Fontanilla,** daughter of **Reynaldo** and **Nenita Fontanilla** on April 12 in a garden wedding ceremony at Helipad, Club Malarayat. **Juan A. Magana** was the reception coordinator.

SAN MIGUEL DEBUT

Risa Lyn Fajardo San Miguel, youngest daughter of engineer **Bernardo** and **Ellaine V. F. San Miguel,** celebrated her 18th birthday at the Ilustrado Restaurant in Intramuros on Mar. 8.

The debutante, fondly called "Liit" by her family, is a freshman civil engineering student at the University of the East. **Junar Santos** of HairXchange did her hair and makeup.

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Sunday LIFESTYLE

Weddings Engagements

VALENCIA-BELANGEL NUPTIALS

Secret admirer woos with roses

NEWLYWEDS
Martin and Cyril

Story on page J2

She got a dozen roses every week from an unknown admirer

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May 9 or 17 or 28 1:30-5:30pm P850
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Secret admirer woos with roses

BRIDESMAIDS Carla Balatbat, Patty Echauz, Tin-Tin Blabagno and Susan Bartolome

THE GROOM'S AIM buddies: Stevie Martinez, Rommel Dionisio, Paye San Gabriel and Rey Laguada

A ROMANTIC young man sent bouquets of lovely roses every week to the woman he wanted to be his wife.

The floral offering won her love and the romance ended in an elegant but simple evening wedding at the Santuario de San Antonio in Forbes Park recently.

The courtship actually started at the halls of the Asian Institute of Management in Makati City, where the two were both studying three years ago.

The ardent suitor, Martin B. Valencia, only son of Francisco and Teresita (Balatbat) Valencia Jr., anonymously sent a dozen roses every Thursday to the object of his affection.

The former Cyril Belangel, daughter of Benjamin and Anita (Palomar) Belangel, did not know who the mysterious sender was until she agreed to accompany Martin on a shopping errand for his mother in Alabang. On impulse, he bought roses and presented it to her while they were inside a store.

The formal proposal, that followed soon after, took place over dessert at the Manila Peninsula.

The solemn rites at the Santuario were officiated by Monsignor Gerardo Santos and Fr. Cesar de Santos. The bride's gown by Paching Valera de la Fuente was white satin gazer topped by bias inverted Bertha collar accented with cabbage roses and buds. The bodice was covered with imported silver and transparent beads. She had a long beaded train, and on her head was fine tulle.

Flower arrangements at the church and the Rigodon Ballroom of the Peninsula Hotel, were the dinner-reception was held, carried the peach color motif, complementing the pink and orange decor. They were executed by Tony Padilla. Centerpieces were roses in palest pink, green berries, orchids and lilies and orange candles in virina glasses.

Church music was provided by Bernie Pasamba, while the Brown Sugar band played dance music after the reception.

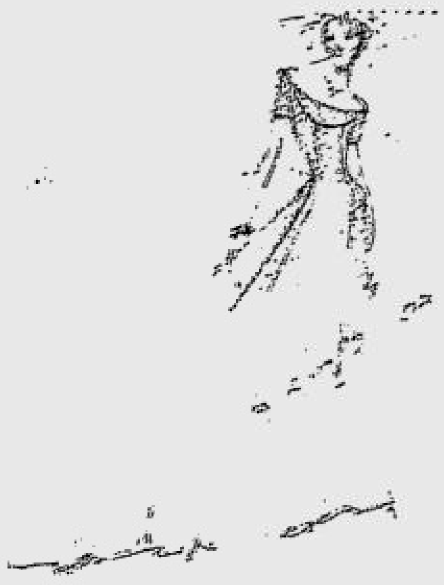
Principal sponsors were Cornelio Gison, Lydia Echauz, Oscar Reyes, Arsenia Bauaog, Fernando Balatbat, Olive Ang, Nards Leviste, Wilhelmina Peluso, Ramon Balatbat, Elenita Cabrera, Mario Aguas, Teresita Lucido and Antonio Panajon. Best man was Philip S. Cruz while maid of honor was Marichel P. Belangol.

Groomsmen were Mark Leviste, Paolo Balatbat, John Echauz, Antonio Chong; bridesmaids were Patricia Echauz, Barbara Carla Balatbat, Florence Lobaton, and Christine R Blabagino; candle sponsors were Benjamin Belangel Jr. and Abigail Parazo; veil sponsors were Raymond Lacdao and Susan Bartolome; and cord sponsors were Stefano Martinez and Sophia Echauz. Bible bearer was Joseph Conrad.

THE COUPLE with the groom's parents Francisco and Chit Valencia

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple at least two weeks before the wedding. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.



TORRES-INES

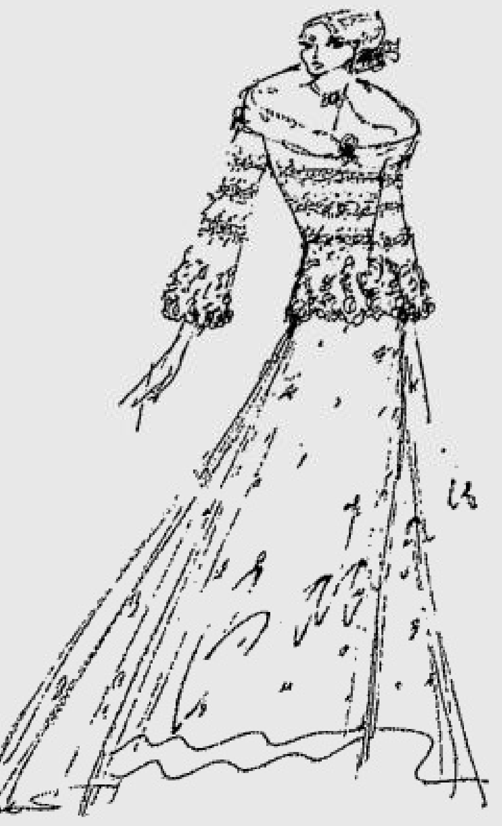
Engineer **Vicente Torres, Jr.**, son of **Vicente Sr.** and **Erlinda Torres**, will marry lawyer **Auresana Ines**, daughter of **Rey** and **Susan Ines**, on May 3 at the Basilica de San Sebastian. Reception will follow at Ibarra 's Garden and Grill.

The bride will wear an ivory white duchess satin and Swiss tulle princess-cut gown, with see-through cup sleeves and neckline, scattered with caviar, glass and borealis beads and a separate train, designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo**, who also created the ensembles of the entourage in a moss green motif. The bride's hair and makeup are by **Eric Maningat**.

BAINTO GOLDEN WEDDING

Eliseo and **Rosalina Bainto** will renew their vows to celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary at 10 a.m., May 2 at the Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Shrine Parish, Quezon City. The couple's seven children will participate in the ceremonies. Reception will follow at Mt. Carmel Reception Hall.

The bride will wear a champagne gold frosted silk and Swiss lace gown, with semi off-shoulder *panuelo* bell sleeves blouse. It is paired with a two layered bias skirt embellished with beads and a separate train. The ensemble is by couturier **Eddie Baddeo.**



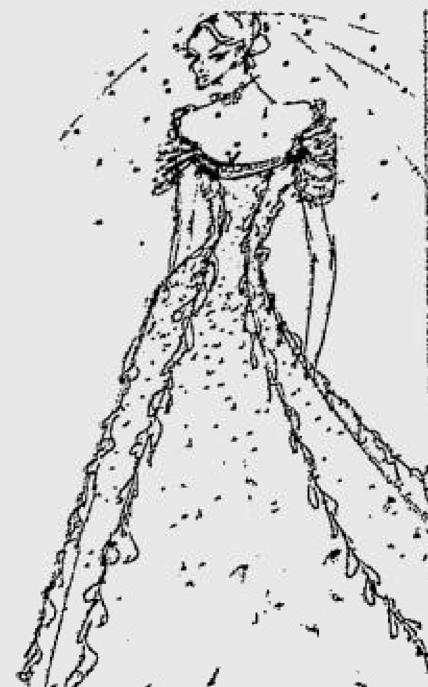
VILLEGAS-LISING

Raymund Villegas, son of **Diosdado** and **Angelita Villegas**, will marry **Vivian Lising**, daughter of **Irineo** and **Pacencia Lising**, on May 1 at the Our Lady of Remedies Chapel, Clarkfield, Pampanga. Reception will follow at the Grand Ballroom of the Holiday Inn Resort Mimosa, Clarkfield, Pampanga.

The bride will wear a white duchess satin and chiffon bias cut column gown, with draping top bodice and one-sided brooch, embellished with caviar and glass beads and detachable sweet train by **Eddie Baddeo**, who also created the ensembles of the entourage in periwinkle blue printed silk organdy. The bride's hair and makeup are by **Eric Maningat**.

BORANSING-PANGARUNGAN

1st Lt. **Manaros Malik Mandolo Macarambon Boransing**, son of Prof. **Manaros Mandalo** and lawyer **Lindao Macarambon Boransing**, wed Dr. **Potre Mairasna Magayoong Pangarungan**, daughter of Marawi datu **Rasid Malomalo Pangarungan** and Dr. **Maimona Wongkay Magayoong**, in a Maranao-military wedding ceremony at the country club of Xavier Estates in Cagayan de Oro City. The bridal gown was made by **Malu Veloso.**



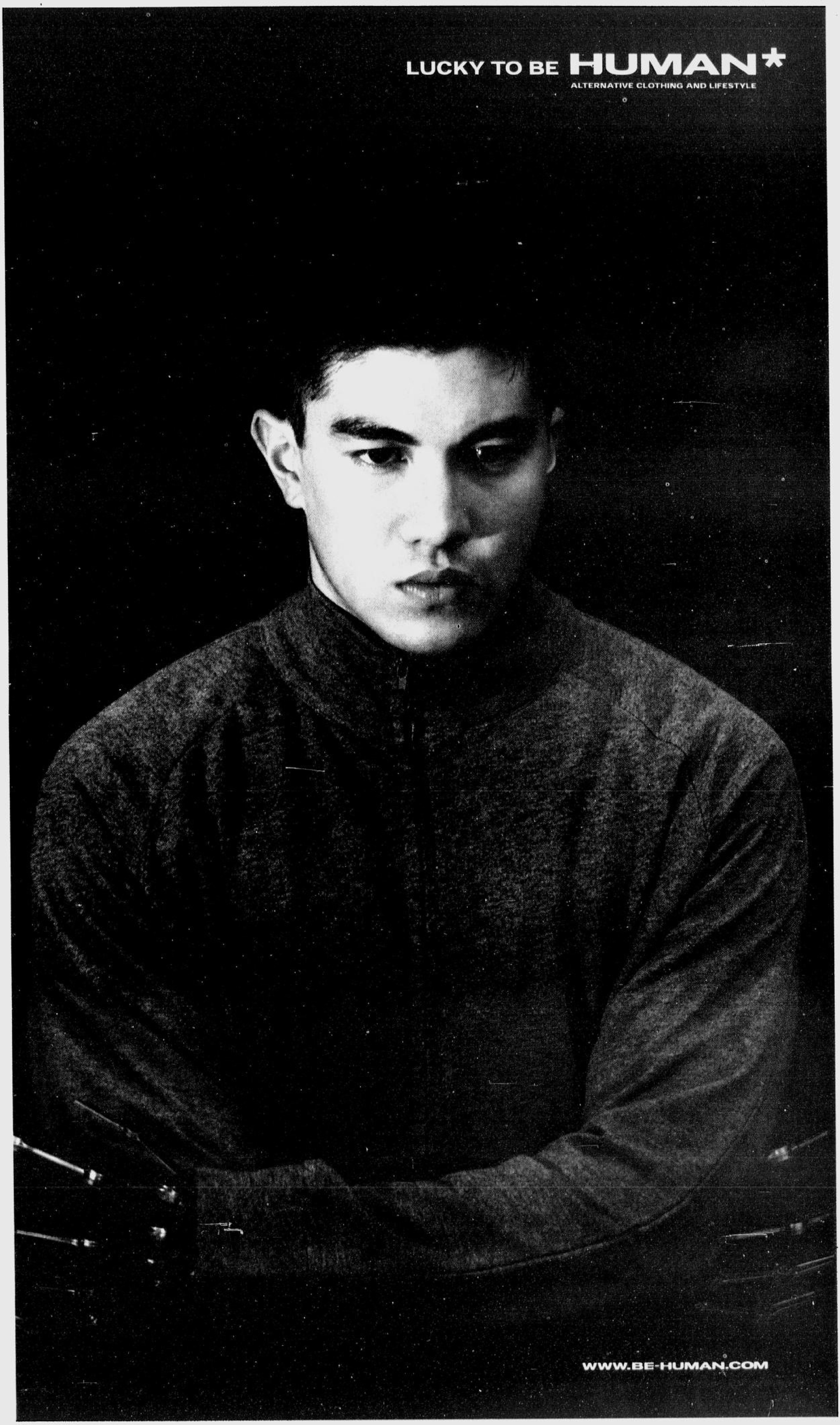
RAMOS-LEYNES

Bayani Rico Ramos, son of laywer and former Quezon City councilor **Teodoro** and **Trinidad Ramos**, will marry **Maiah Angela Leynes**, daughter of former Infanta, Quezon, municipal councilor **Ruben** and **Minda Leynes**, on May 4 at the Manila Cathedral. Reception will follow at the Coconut Palace, Cultural Center of the Philippines Complex, Manila.

The bride will wear a glossy white silk gazar and Swiss tulle off shouldered princess-cut gown, with tulle draping neckline embellished with heavy, embossed beads and a detachable cathedral train. The gown was designed and executed by **Eddie Baddeo**, who also created the ensembles of the entourage in sunset orange motif. **Patrick Hermosa** of L&P Talon is the makeup artist, while the wedding coordinator is the Magical Events.

FERNANDEZ DEBUT

Arlene Fernandez, a Bachelor of Art, majoring in Advertising student of College of the Holy Spirit, celebrated her 18th birthday at Jade Palace Shaw Blvd. She is the daughter of **Lt. Col. Arnaldo** and **Elena Fernandez**. Coordinator is **Fe Mallete.**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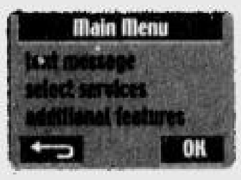
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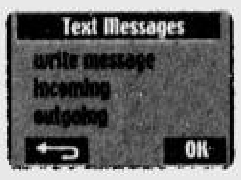
2. Go to "write message".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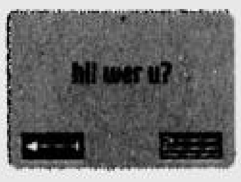
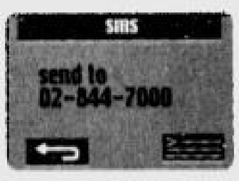
3. Key in your message and press upper right button.


hi! wer u?

4. Enter cellphone or landline number you wish to send the message to. For landline numbers, include area code.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send to
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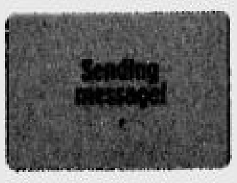
5. Then press "send".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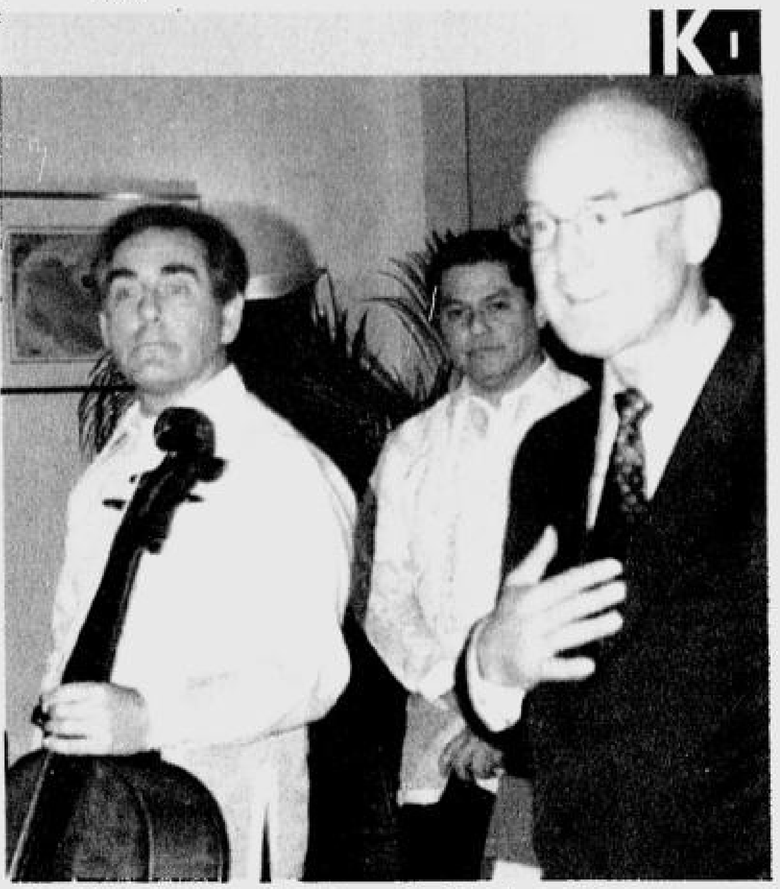
Sunday LIFESTYLE

BRITISH Ambassador Paul and Carolyn Dimond

MR. and Ms Jose Mari Chan

TESSIE Luz and Beth Day Romulo



GERMAN cellist Klaus Kanngiesser, Raul Sunico and German Ambassador Herbert Jess

PHOTOS BY BETOY JOHNSON AND JOHNNY VILLENA

Music lovers getting monthly treats from German ambassador

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

GERMAN Ambassador and Mme. **Herbert Jess** are spoiling lovers of music by presenting intimate Hausmusikabend programs at their elegant residence, whose main salon has been enlarged to accommodate a bigger crowd.

After attending the performance of the Justus Franz Quartet that featured piano pieces for quartets by Mozart and Brahms, friends in the Diplomatic Corps and the private sector were back last week at the Jesses' home to listen to German cellist **Klaus Kanngiesser** and our own virtuoso pianist, **Raul Sunico**.

Imagine the audience's delighted surprise when it learned that the valuable cello was lent by former Marcos cabinet member **Ronnie Velasco**, who modestly sat in the crowd and appeared embarrassed by the attention. It isn't every day that one finds government officials truly interested in culture.

The sterling renditions of Mendelssohn, Brahms and Schumann were duly appreciated by the audience that is now eagerly looking forward to—would you believe?—next month's Hausmusikabend event as promised by the generous German ambassador and his wife.

MUSIC/ K3

IRENE Marcos Araneta and Letty Syquia

EVIE Costa and Belinda Olivares-Cunanan

RUSSIAN Ambassador and Mme. Anatoly Nebogatov

FORTUNE Ledesma and French Ambassador Renée Veyret

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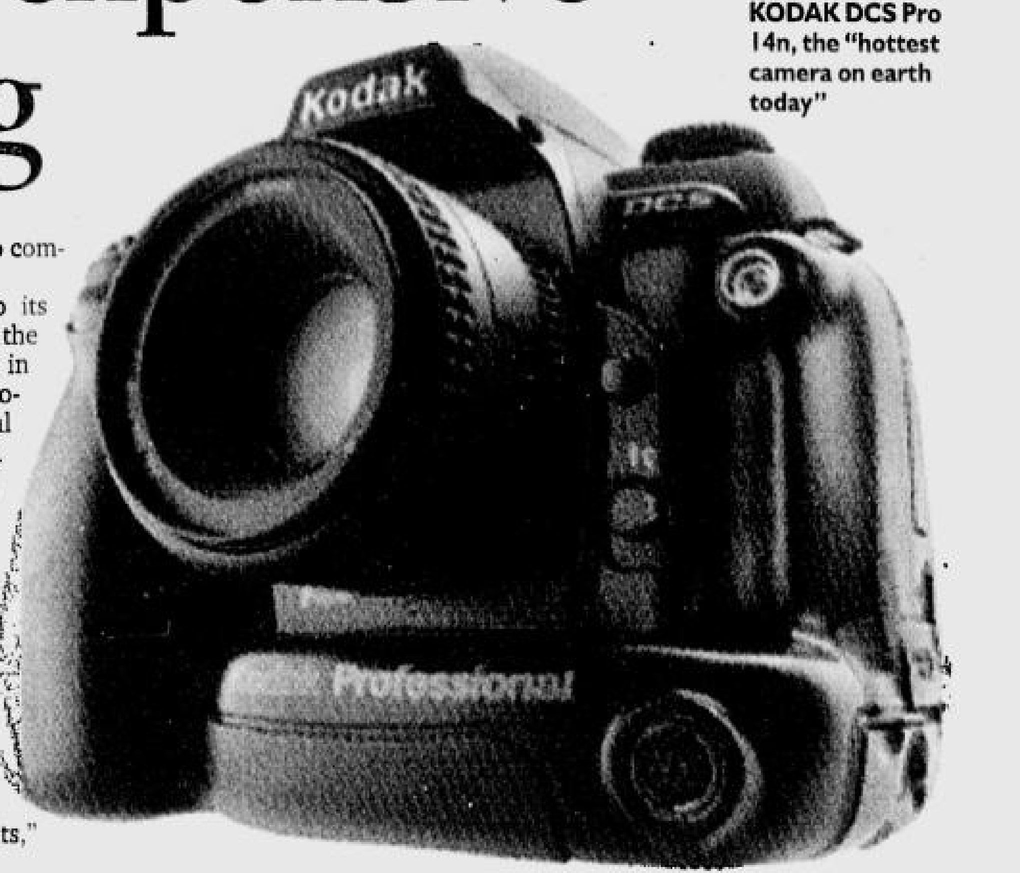
The exciting, expensive art of imaging

By Constantino C. Tejero



KODAK DCS Pro 14n, the "hottest camera on earth today"

A SPARKLING Display. Search for Clarity. Treasures to Hold. Mining Secrets of the Trade. Unveiling the Diamond.

With those words, Eastman Kodak Company announces its 75th anniversary in the country.

For the diamond anniversary, it held a trade show at SM Megatrade Hall recently, meant for a showcase of imaging products as well as for consumer promotions. It was billed with the advertising slogan "Capturing the Brilliance of Life."

Installed in a semicircle in the hall were booths for the company's six business units: Consumer Imaging, Digital and Applied Imaging, Health Imaging, Entertainment Imaging, Commercial Imaging, and Kodak Professional.

"We pride ourselves in the fact that we are a total-solution provider, from image capture to output, from camera, film, scanner, to printer," says Diana Pilapil-Mendoza, product and channel manager of Kodak Professional in the Philippines.

No competitor

This division has two segments, commercial and portrait, and it includes advertising, fashion, art photography. It has cameras with costs ranging from P360,000-P800,000.

"A professional camera that I can say is of good quality would start at about $4,000," says Steve Seah, Eastman Kodak-Singapore digital systems manager, Professional Division, Southeast Asia Cluster.

He shows off the newest toy from his company: the model DCS Pro 14n, with a promo price of P360,000.

"This is the hottest camera on earth right now," says Seah. "It has no competitor yet."

This one, according to its promotion bill, delivers the highest resolution images in the digital SLR market today (13.89 million total pixels). It features a full 35-mm sensor (24 mm x 36 mm) with medium-format quality and enlargement capability. It transfers images 3-4 times faster than the current Firewire connectivity. And it features a professionally enhanced, magnesium-alloy body.

"We provide the widest array of products," says Mendoza.

While other companies sell only cameras or film, Kodak provides even the photographic paper, the latest of which is the color metallic paper, launched last year. Unlike with matte or glossy paper, here the image seems to pop out of the surface.

"*Parang may* 3D effect," enthuses Mendoza.

She shows a digital wedding storybook using the paper. It is an 11" x 14" album with 20 leaves and 40 pictures, costing P75,000 from Jorge Maniquis' studio-lab.

Teach and train

"Our key clients are professional photographers, laboratories and studios," says Mendoza. "We teach them, train them, tell them these are the trends—to elevate their skills and knowledge. We teach them the concept. We provide them quality products. We help them create demand."

Kodak on its 75th year can claim to be a total-solution provider, from image capture to output, from camera, film or scanner to printer

The first Kodak camera was launched in 1888, priced at $25. Forty years later, the company introduced the first motion-picture film.

That year, 1928, Kodak Phils. started operations in Binondo, Manila. It held its first business office in C.M. Hoskins on Escolta.

Today it has so imbedded itself in the consciousness of Filipinos that we have even coined a word reflecting that legacy: *kodakan*.

New men's magazine debuts

MANUAL, a new magazine for men from Mega Magazines & Publications, Inc. (MMPI), has just hit the newsstands.

In the first issue, Tan and Gania's "Homme Improvement" looks at fashion and the straight male with the help of eight of the country's top menswear designers. Anthony Nocom, Rhett Eala, Gerry Katigbak, Vittorio, Edwin Tan, Kenneth Chua, Randy Ortiz and Marden Iglesia create designs that herald the return of the gentleman.

Men's fashion, after the baggy shirts and billowing pants, returns to the slimmer silhouettes and genre-inspired designs.

Shani R. Tan observes that menswear today "are revamped classics with a more subtle edge although traditional details feature prominently."

MAN
HOMME
JAIME

The section "Fitting Room" mixes and matches the old reliable khaki, using clever accessories to broaden its appeal.

Manual also features Vicente Groyon's perceptive article about life inside the Makati Medical Center's psychiatric ward, a breezy profile of Isabel Roces, the country's model of the moment. Quinito Henson tells the gritty story of Freddie Roach, the best young boxing trainer in the world, while Miguel Ongpin writes about the finest obscure bars in Manila.

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Philippine Daily Inquirer Classifieds
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On June 1, 2003, Philippine Daily Inquirer Classifieds presents the Kasalang Filipino Supplement -- a wedding special featuring helpful wedding planning articles and listings of the best wedding products and services in the country.

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Wedding Supplier Directory Page **
Supplier Listing Php 1,600
(5 cm. x 3 cm.)

Early bird Specials
Less 10%*, 15%** for road show participants or to those who sign up on or before May 15, 2003.

FESTIVAL queens

It's 'pistahan' time in Metro Manila

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism (DOT), Cultural Center of the Philippines (CCP), the cities of Manila and Pasay, and Star City will mount the first pageant of Filipino festivities May 1-3.

The three-day "Aliwan Fiesta," intended to rival the colorful carnivals of Brazil and the legendary mardi gras of New Orleans, will open with a parade that will start at the Quirino Grandstand at Luneta and end at the Aliwan Theater at Star City.

It will bring together at least 3,500 talents from the country's 16 regions.

Manila Mayor Lito Atienza, Tourism Undersecretary Rolando G. Reyes (representing Secretary Richard Gordon), Pasay City Mayor Peewee Trinidad, and CCP chair Baltazar Endriga attended the launch.

Aliwan Fiesta will give a glimpse of some of the country's best known fiestas like the Sandugo Festival of Bohol, Panagbenga Flower Festival of Baguio City, Ati-Atihan of Kalibo, Aklan, the Sinulog of Cebu, and Kaamulan of Bukidnon.

Regions will compete in three categories: Cultural Dance Parade Competition, Float Competition, and Reyna ng Aliwan pageant. Members of the board of judges will stay in three places—Quirino Grandstand, the Rajah Sulayman Plaza in Malate, and in front of the Aliw Theater at Star City.

The whole parade route will be adorned with the colorful *kiping* from Lucban's Pahiyas. Multicolor costumes bedecked in rice, corn, fruits a la Isabela's Bambanti Festival and many more will be featured.

Other participating festivals include Mananayaw ng Makati, Pamulinawen (Ilocos Norte), Pavburulan (Cagayan Valley), Sinukwan (Pampanga), Pasing-gatan (Palawan), Sumakah (Rizal), Kaugma (Camarines Sur), Sarakiki-Hadang (Calbayog City), Tribu Sinandulog (Tangub City, Misamis Occidental), Halad (Cotabato), Kadayawan (Davao), Tinalak (South Cotabato), Buyawanong Placer (Surigao del Norte), Pakiligian sa ARMM (Parang, Maguindanao), and Sining Pakalagayan (Maguindanao).

With almost P3 million at stake, the event could be the tourism highlight of the year. It is planned to eventually expand the event into an Asean pageant that will showcase the diverse arts, culture and tradition of Southeast Asia.

The festival will also feature bazaars selling native products and culinary delights of the 16 participating regions, as well as a grand fireworks display.

A three-night concert will feature the country's top performers and show bands.

A prelude to the annual Flores de Mayo aka Santacruzan, the event follows the declaration by the World Tourism Organization (WTO), the international association of 140 government tourism agencies, that 2003 is "Visit Philippines" year.

Supporting the event are giant companies like San Miguel Beer Corporation, Zest-O Corporation, Touch Mobile, Nestle Philippines, Sara Lee Corporation, Wyeth Consumer Health Care and Palmolive Shampoo.

FR. Pedro Galende, Ambassador Chavez Soto, Wilbert Haya and Ms Delima during the exhibition of colonial paintings from Peru

PERUVIAN Ambassador Jorge Chavez Soto addresses the crowd.

LEONOR Goquingco and Nestor Mata

VINCE Carlos and Isabel Wilson

ZENAIDA Reichert and Nena Casimiro

KING and Pearl Doromal

CZECH Republic Ambassador Stanislav Slavicky

ISABELLE Haya

Music lovers getting monthly treats . . .

From page K1

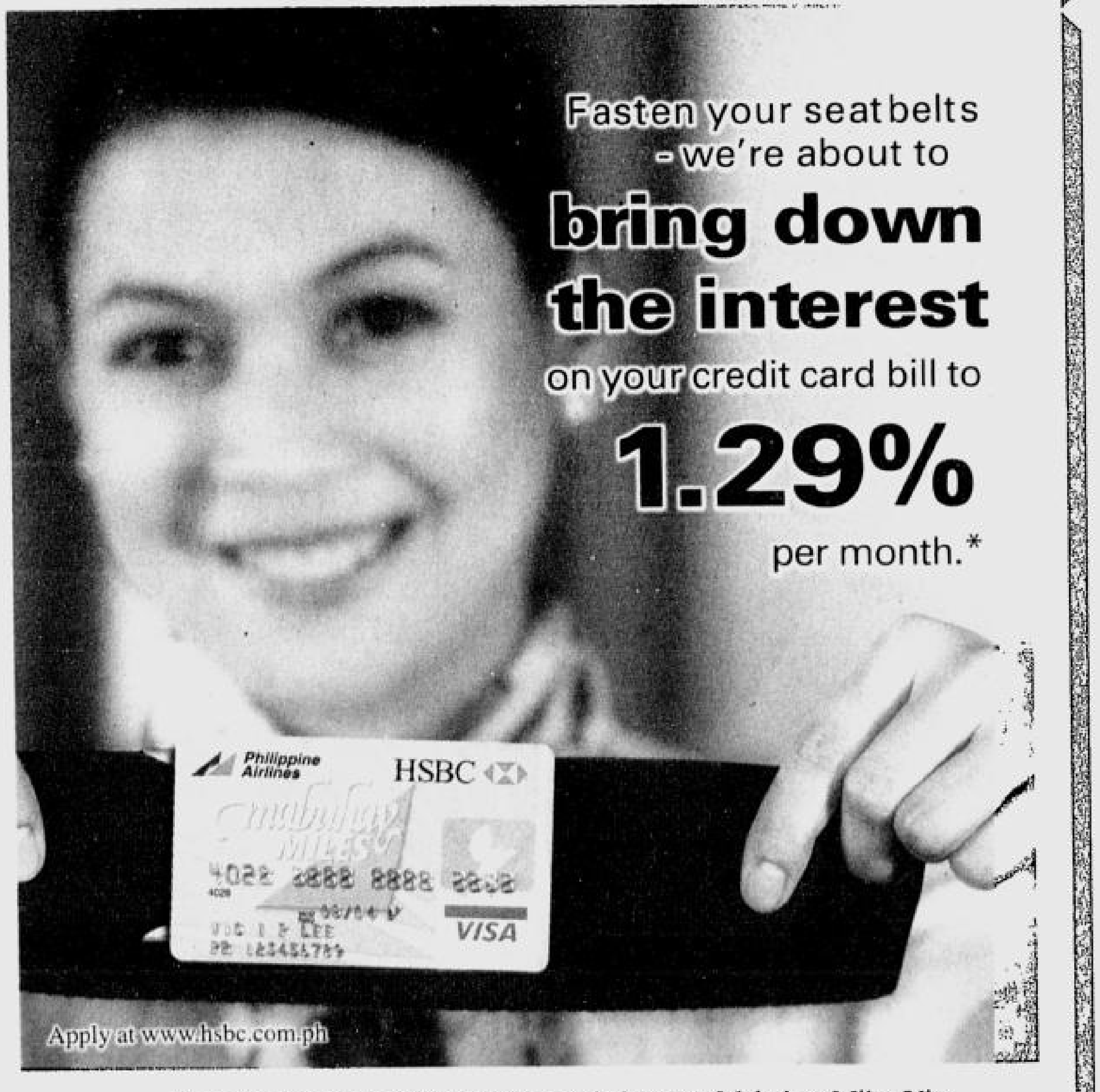
* * *

Across town, at the historic San Agustin Church, Peruvian Ambassador **Jorge Chavez Soto** inaugurated an exhibition of colonial sacred art paintings from his country. For antique aficionados, this show featuring the Cuzco School of Art works dating back to the 17th and 18th centuries is most welcome.

The paintings strike a familiar chord among the cognoscenti knowledgeable about our own colonial paintings recreating biblical passages and portraits of saints and martyrs.

Cuzco artists of the 17th and 18th centuries, although influenced by European religious art, struck out on their own and created unique works with indigenous imagery that remain fresh and charming until now. The show is ongoing till May 15.

CUBAN Ambassador Ramon Alonso Medina



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MAY SCHEDULE
RECREATIONAL AND ONE-DAY BUSINESS CLASS

May 01 & 02, Thurs. & Fri. – THE COFFEE CLASS 1 & 2 Learn from Chef Gene Gonzalez, the tastemaster of coffee and consultant designer to several coffee house systems teach you (hands-on) the basic of making proper and profitable cups of Americano, Espresso, Cappuccino, Lattés, etc. The class will also touch on the basics of blending, machine and costing on the first day. Day 2 will cover exciting and high profit cold coffee concoctions with creative topping and syrups such as Mocha Madness, Café Seville, Café Tortoni, Coffee Jelly etc. The course is open to both restaurant operators and hobbyists. Recipes include all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 for Ph 3,000.00 for the 2 days.

May 03, Sat. – THE CRAB IS KING 1. Recipes from Chef Gene that are all time restaurant favourites, it includes Than-Long Crab, Crab Cakes, Stuffed Crab Bisque, Fried Salted Spicy Crab and Quiampong with Crabmeat. For P980.00 with all the ingredients from 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

May 04, Sun. – APPETIZERS, APPETIZERS! 3. Another set of easy recipes from Chef Gene Gonzalez like Stuffed Mushroom, Modern Sisig, Fried Chilies and Cheese, Spicy Shrimp Pandan, Camaron Dorado con Jamon, Chicken and Black Mushroom Spring rolls and Tuna Tartar. For P880.00 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon including ingredients.

May 5, Mon. – CONTEMPORARY CHINESE COOKING. Chef Henry Chung from The Good Earth Tea House shows you simple yet tantalizing dishes for your table in this easy to follow session of Modern Chinese Cooking. The recipes are Eggplant with Tomato or Miso Sauce, Sauteed Hamachi with Szechuan Pepper, Scallop with Tofu and Crysanthemum Tea Jelly including all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. for P1,500.00. **NEW CLASS.**

May 6, 8, 13 & 15, Tues. and Thurs. – KIDS BAKING WORKSHOP. Chefs Tricia and Adoree will give your kids summer fun and make them productive by teaching them variety of cookie and bar recipes such as Chocolate Cup Cookies, Fudge Brownies, Black n' White Cupcakes, Butter Cookies, Turtle Bars, Thumbprint Cookies, Peanut Butter Squares and a lot more. This will be a 4-day class and all the ingredients are inclusive from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. for P900.00 per day or P3,400.00 for the 4 sessions. **NEW CLASS.**

May 7, Wed. – KOREAN SPECIALS 1. Shim Kun Huh from Pusan, Korea invites us to learn basic restaurant and home fare of Korea. Dishes are Beancurd Banchan, Seafood Soup, Fresh Kimchi, Bulgogi with Dipping Sauce, Flat Noodles with Vegetables and Dried Anchovy and Lettuce with Fermented Bean Paste for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **NEW CLASS.**

May 10, Sat. – COMMERCIAL AND HOME SIOPAO MAKING. Chef Gene gives simple and easy to make steamed Buns a touch for home and business. Recipes include Siopao Dough, Asado, Bola-bola (Pork and Chicken), Braised Pork (Lo Mah), Black Mongo Filling, Cuapao, Silver Spoon Bread, Kiamchay and Siopao Sauce for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 9:00 – 1:00 p.m.

May 11, Sun. – THE SAUSAGE WORKSHOP 1 Recipes from Chef Gene for you to learn and can be use in business. The recipes are Italian Sausage, Morcillas or Blood Sausage, Longganisang Calumpit, Breakfast Pork Sausage, Seafood Sausage, Sulipan Sausage and Chorizo de Jabali. Recipes include all ingredients for P880.00 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

May 12, Mon. – KOREAN SPECIALS 2. For her Part 2, Shim Kun Huh from Pusan, Korea will teach more popular Korean restaurant and home fare like Potato Banchan, Dried Anchovy Banchan, Seaweed Soup, Fresh Kimchi, Grilled Chilli Pork and Crystal Noodles with Thinly Sliced Beef and Vegetables for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 14, Wed. – MODERN AND EASY PASTA SAUCES 3. Great and new sauces from Chef Junjun for everyone to enjoy, for café owners, hobbyists and wives that includes Tomato and Sausage, Italian Meatballs, Pink Sauce, Ham and Tomato Cream, Roasted Vegetables in Olive Oil and Smoked Tangingue with Cream Cheese from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. for P1,500.00 including all ingredients.

May 16, Fri. –SPANISH MEAL 1. Recipes from Ms. Betina Legarda's file of Spanish meals which includes Alcachofas con Chorizo, Ensalada de Narangjas, Sopa de Ajo y Bariaciones, Almejas y Pescado con Salsa Verde(I), Pollo con Aceitunas and Flan Especial for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 17, Sat. – ASIAN RICE & SNACKS. Chef Gene's Simple Asian Rice and Snacks recipes like Soft Spicy Rolls (Vietnam), Vietnamese Clay Pot Rice, Flying Red Dragon Shake, Bun Cha Hanoi, Gene's Eight Treasure Rice in Lotus Leaf, Petaling Clay Pot Chicken Rice (Malaysia) and Nasi Ikan Masin (Malaysia) for P980.00 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

May 18, Sun. – TAPAS: SPANISH BAR FAVORITES 1. Delicious Appetizers from Spain like Almejas al Vapor, Tortilla Madrileña, Callos, Esparragos con Jamon, Huevos con Salmon Ahumado, Hojaldrados de Chorizo and Mejillones Rellenos for P880.00 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

May 19, Mon. – FAVORITE COOKIES AND BARS 1. Chef Junjun presents scrumptious baked goodies he grew up with like Nutty Butterscotch Bars, Oatmeal Mango Cookies; Honey Orange Bars, Rocky Road Bar, Amaretti Cookies and Neiman's Mistake for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 20, Tues. – PASTA IN A FLASH. Let Chef Gino teach you 8 quick, easy and delightful pasta recipes in one short period. Recipes include Pasta Fritata, Linguine in Vongole Sauce, Chorizo, Mushroom and Roasted Red Bell Pepper Sauce, Chicken and Shrimp Lemon Crème Sauce, Pasta Bianca alla Carbonara, Pasta Salad with Honey Dill Dressing and Gino's Puttanesca for P1,200.00 including all ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. **NEW CLASS.**

May 21, Wed. – POPULAR CAFÉ FAVORITES 2. The second part of Coffee shop dishes, Chef Junjun of Caffe Ago-go demonstrates: Spinach Boursin Spread, Marinated Harvest Salad, Pastrami and Sundried Tomato Panino, BBQ Back Ribs with Java Rice, Smoked Salmon Deli and Chocolate Pecan Pie for P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m. **NEW CLASS.**

May 22, Thurs. – SPANISH MEAL 2. For the part 2 of our Spanish meal: Betina Legarda will teach recipes such as Gambas Ajillo, Pan con Tomate, Fabada Asturiana con Salsa Aleoli Rapido, Paella Marinera, Pollo con Chorizo and Crema Catalana. For P1,500.00 including all ingredients from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 23, Fri. – SPECIAL EVERYDAY MEALS 1. This easy meal that Chef Gino teaches is meant to put a smile on every person seated on the table. Recipes include Fried Mozzarella with Marinara Sauce, Gambas, Chicken Parmiggiano, Grape Salad, Fillet of Steak with 3 Mushroom Gravy and Butterscotch Cream Pie. For P1,200.00 including ingredients from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 24, Sat. – PINOY KAKANIN 1. Pinoy Kakanin recipes from Chef David such as Pichi-piching Kamoteng Kahoy, Pichi-piching Green Pinipig, Sapin-sapin, Puto, Puto (Flour) and Kalamay na Kalabasa for P1,000.00 from 10:00 – 3:00 p.m. including all ingredients.

May 25, Sun. – BASIC FILIPINO COOKERY Chef Gene will teach us simple recipes that include Apalit Kare-kare Special with Bagoong Guisado, Samal Rice, Guinataang Hipon sa Dilaw, Davao Bulalo, Kapampangan Adobo and Manga at Bilo-bilo for P880.00 from 9:00 – 12:00 noon.

May 26, Mon. – THE ART OF JAPANESE FRYING. Chef Rikichi Aoki from Osaka, Japan teaches the simple art of Favorite Japanese Fried Dishes in this class that features Tempura, Katsudon, Tongkatsu, Donburi plus the sauces that accompanies every dish. Recipes include all ingredients for P1,200.00 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m

May 27, Tues. – SUSHI AND SASHIMI WORKSHOP 1. Chef Rikichi Aoki from Osaka, Japan will teach us simple and basic recipes in doing Sushi and Sashimi Recipes include California Roll, Tekka Roll, Tekka Maki, Tuna, Shrimp, Ika (Squid), Salmon, Usuzukuri, How to make Sushi rice and also Sauces to accompany our sushi and sashimi. Including all ingredients for P1,500.00 from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May. 28 – 30, Wed. to Fri. – BASIC BAKING WORKSHOP. A 3-days hands-on workshop that will teach the students all the necessary principle and techniques in baking which will start with cookies, bars, coffee cakes and end with the three (3) main types of cakes. The workshop is limited to 15 students. Manual, ingredients and apron will be included for P4,800.00 from 10:00 – 4:00 p.m.

May 31, Sat. – PINOY KAKANIN 2. For the 2nd part of Pinoy kakanin, let Chef David teach us Moron, Tibok-tibok, Kutsinta, Maja Ube, Kalamay na Malagkit, Palitao and Bibingkang Malagkit for P1,000.00 including all ingredients from 10.00 – 3.00 p.m.

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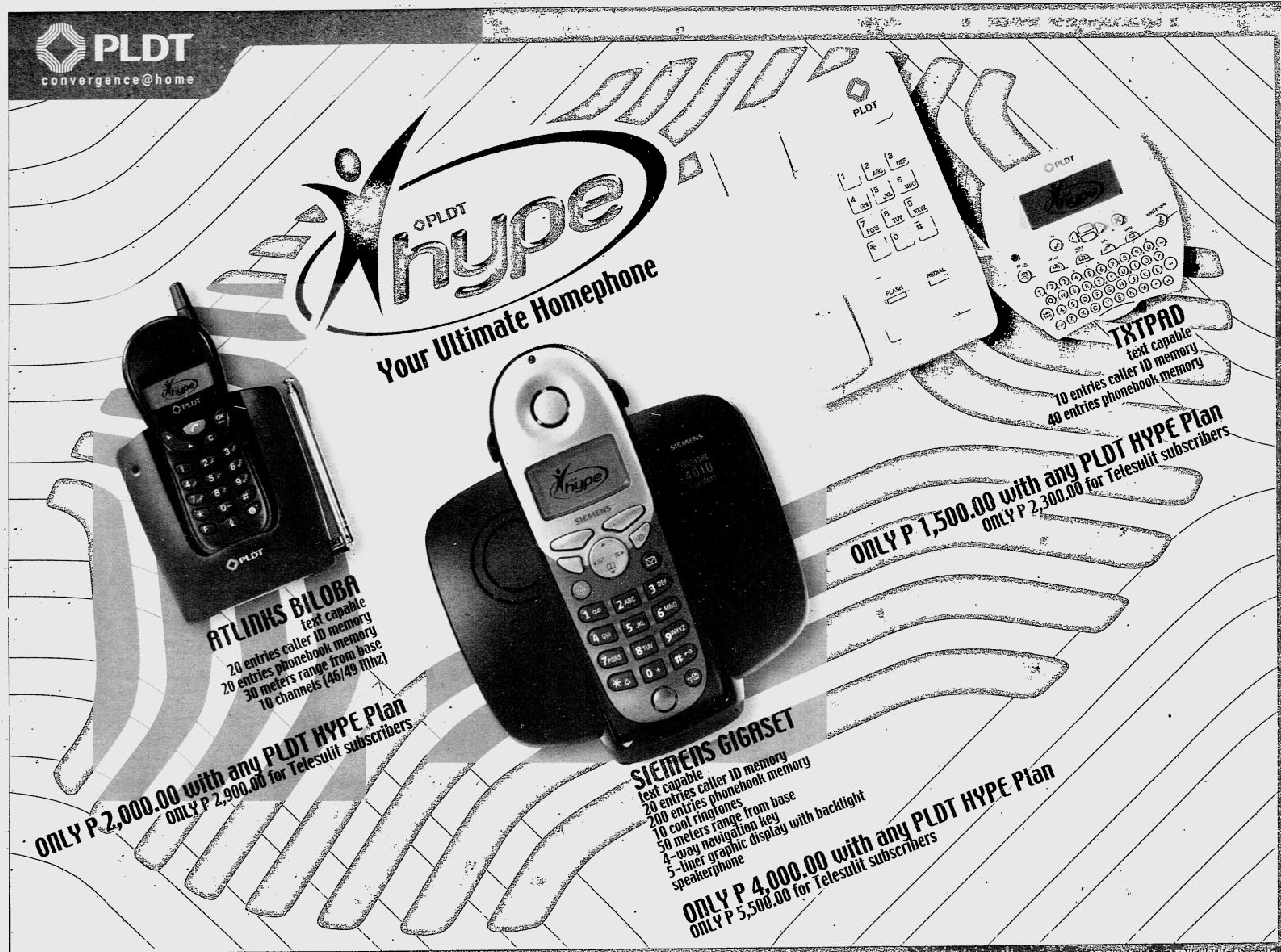

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PROMO OFFER:

1) FREE first 2 months of the PLDT Hype plans as follows:

PLANS	250	550
Monthly Charge	P 250	P 550
Caller ID	P 50	P 50
Consumable Text Charges	P 200	P 500

Plans include free texting privileges:

FREE TEXT	75	200
Landline to Landline	45	110
Landline to Cellular	30	90

After 2 months, PLDT Hype Plan charges will be applied on the PLDT Monthly Statement of Account. Hype Plan charge is on top of the regular basic monthly telephone charges.

2) Text usage in excess of the FREE plan value and FREE texting privileges will be charged to subscriber's PLDT Monthly Statement of Account. Price per text is as follows:

	Rates / Text
Landline to Landline	P 0.50
Landline to Cellular	P 1.00
International	P 15.00

WHO ARE QUALIFIED TO JOIN:
1) All existing PLDT residential direct line subscribers (excluding PLDT Telesulit and Teletipid).
2) All new PLDT Post Paid residential direct line installations (those who paid for the line) during the promo period.

HOW TO QUALIFY:
1) To avail of the promo offer, subscribers must first purchase any of the following PLDT Hype texting devices at any PLDT Business Offices and authorized outlets:

UNIT / MODEL	[illegible]
Siemens Gigaset	P 4,000
Atlinks Biloba	P 2,000
TXTPAD	P 1,500

2) Upon purchase of any of the PLDT HYPE texting devices, subscriber must enroll in a PLDT Hype Plan P250 or P550 by accomplishing a PLDT HYPE application form.

TERMS AND CONDITIONS:
1) Promo period is from April 20, 2003 to July 31, 2003.
2) There could only be one Plan for each direct line.
3) PLDT reserves the right not to sell PLDT HYPE texting devices to subscribers whose lines are temporarily/permanently disconnected.
4) Should they discontinue subscriptions to Plan for less than a year, they will be charged a termination fee of P1,500.
5) Should a subscriber downgrade his Plan from P550 to P250 for less than a year, he will be charged a downgrade fee of P300.

Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 0945 series of 2003

ALSO AVAILABLE IN TELESULIT

[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]	[illegible]
Landline to Landline	P 0.75	TXTPAD	P 2,300
Landline to Cellular	P 1.25	Atlinks Biloba	P 2,900
International	P 15.00	Siemens Gigaset	P 5,500
Content	P 2.50		

PLDT HYPE AVAILABLE IN THESE OUTLETS: ALL PLDT BUSINESS OFFICES/ ABENSON: Tayuman, Malabon, Congressional, Jaka, Filinvest, Alabang, Ermita, Harrison Plaza, Makati, Glorietta, Cainta 1, Pasig, Shangrila, Unimart, Quezon City, Rustan's, SM City, Kalookan/ TRUE VALUE: Shangrila, Harrison Plaza, Makati, Rockwell, Alabang/ RUSTAN'S: Alabang, Shangrila, Makati, Tower, Harrison Plaza/ MEGACELLULAR: All Outlets/ QUICKCOM: SM Southmall, SM North Edsa, Cebu, Iloilo/ WINTELCOM: Malate/ SHOPWISE: Makati, Libis, Alabang/ ELECTROWORLD: SM Southmall, SM Megamall, SM North Edsa, Alabang, Manila, Greenbelt, Sta. Rosa, Alabang Town Center, New Farmers Plaza, Pampanga, Cainta, Fairview, Parksquare/ SHOPWISE: Makati, Libis, Alabang/ DO-IT-YOURSELF: Ortigas, Greenhills, Fairview, Sta. Rosa/ AUTOMATIC/SOGO: Cubao, Festival Mall, Rob. Novaliches, Glorietta, North Edsa, Rob. Galleria, Ali Mall, Alabang, Tutuban, Greenbelt, Greenhills, Las Pinas

For feedback, text us at (0919)880-33-54 or email us at pr_lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday LIFESTYLE

REEM Alrasheed (right) dances the *tinikling*.

RAJA Almuneef, Sharon Cuneta and Suzan Alares

Foreign guest impresses as she deftly did the 'tinikling' without getting her feet caught between the poles

Barrio fiesta and birthdays

By Donnie C. Ramirez
Contributor

SENATORIAL wife and former movie queen **Helen Gamboa Sotto** rolled out the red carpet for her Jordanian friend **Raja Almuneef** who, together with her daughter **Reem Alrasheed** and traveling companion **Suzan Alares**, was a recent Manila visitor.

Helen organized a lavish barrio fiesta at the family's garden in White Plains to show appreciation for the hospitality extended by Almuneef to the Sottos when they visited Jordan last month.

The garden was ablaze with lights, lanterns and colorful buntings. A splendid array of Filipino dishes was laid out on a festively decorated buffet tables. For entertainment, the acclaimed Ramon Obusan Folkloric Group performed a suite of Philippine regional dances like the rhythmic *Maglalatik*, the elegant *Subli*, the playful *Pilapitik* and the pulsating *Palu-Palo*, a martial dance that features skillful hand movements. The group ended its performance with the popular *Tinikling*.

In return, Reem Alrasheed did a traditional Jordanian dance. She also joined the local dancers in the *Tinikling*, getting appreciative applause as she deftly and graciously kept her feet from getting caught between the bamboo poles.

Tito and Helen and their handsome brood—**Lala, Apple, Ciara** and **Gian**—wore traditional Filipino costumes.

Among the guests were Senate President **Franklin** and **Mila Drilon**, **Sen. Tessie Oreta** and hubby **Len**, concert queen **Pops Fernandez**, megastar **Sharon Cuneta** and her mom, **Elaine**, and Helen's longtime friends **Cynthia Albano, Dulce Lucban** and **Jean Muñiz**.

A couple of birthdays

Diding Robles, wife of Sta. Lucia Realty Corp. top gun **Excy Robles**, was another recent birthday celebrator. Party setting was the sprawling Robles residence in Antipolo. No trophy wife, the charming and brainy Diding is the president of Royale Homes Marketing, which handles the high-end resort and residential projects of Sta. Lucia Realty like the beautiful Club Morocco in Subic, Zambales.

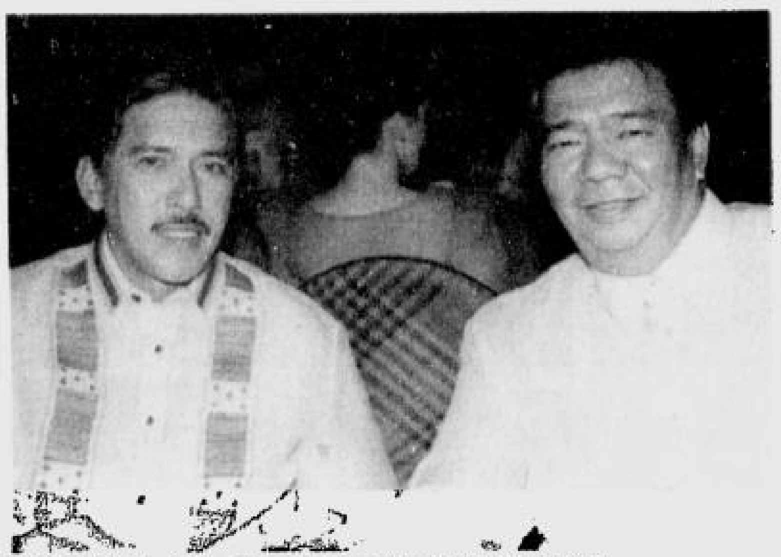
The Rockin' Revival Band kept the energy level up with its infectious dance music. Diding and Excy led the dance floor action, to the delight of their children **Michelle, Michael, Jason, Marlon** and **Joanna**, and Sta. Lucia matriarch **Doña Dominga Robles Santos.**

Some of the guests were **Diana dela Paz, Ivy Leoncio, Wilma Ignacio, Nini Licaros, Carlos** and **Ellen Pecson, Chona Maningos** and **Connie de Silva.**

A couple of weeks later, Diding turned the tables on hubby Excy by giving him a surprise birthday party at the Quezon Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La. The affair, attended by some 600 guests, featured a spectacular entertainment program directed by **Frannie Zamora**. Headliners were **Rico J. Puno, Dessa**, the Hot Legs Dancers, and radiant television personality **Tintin Bersola** as emcee.

BARRIO/L4

BABY de Leon and Mila Drilon



SEN. TITO Sotto and Senate President Franklin Drilon

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'Choosing the Right School for a Better Future Part II'

College in a Nutshell

By: Ma. Lourdes Rochelle P. Gutierrez

SEEMS only yesterday, I was one of those seniors struggling in the midst of smelly crowds at PLM in search of the registrar's office. …I was there standing in infinitely long queues waiting for the release of my test permit. I was wondering if this University will welcome me…hoping. Wishing.

Lo and Behold, I just found myself sitting in one of the classrooms at PLM, listening to "kind" professors and before I knew it, I could already crown myself a true-blue "kolehiyala". Everything was so "changed" in college. My schedule was far behind the schedule I had in high school. I was so overwhelmed to come to class at 11 a.m. At last, I said to myself, I can stay in bed almost as close as forever. I only had 3 subjects a day and call it "full load" ultimately; there was a taste of sweet freedom in college. I could actually go to SM Manila whenever I want to, but I had also to think of the paper I have to pass next week. I can always absent myself to class without bothering to write an excuse letter but I had to cope up with the lessons and make good on my quizzes. I could choose to sleep in class, but then I must remember that it is a disrespect to the teacher and to myself as well. I am allowed to come to class in civilian clothes but then I know, that because I commute in order to get to school, I must dress properly. Freedom is only one side of the coin. Responsibility is always with it.

One thing sure enjoyable in this chapter of one's life is the joy of meeting people from all walks of life, seeing the "world" and the feeling of being at the prime of one's life. College students have all the opportunity to learn both from experiences and academic lessons. They have the wellness of Physical strength and the vibrant force their young lives gave them as a gift.

As for me, I had the feeling that I had actually met the world when I learned to come to school alone. At first, it was really scary to ride in the jeep alone but eventually, I also got used to it. And that includes sitting beside sleeping men and women who will deliberately squeeze their butts to sit. As well as dealing with classmates who open gas cocks in the chemistry lab and laugh at everybody who smelled the fart-like stench. Meeting the world also includes adjusting to new professors. All sorts of them are found in the universities and PLM is no exception. It houses from the most naïve to the most, "I – know- it –all" professors. It's true about what they say that most often, your grade depends on the professor you have. I had to watch out not to offend them in any way because I am never sure who my professor is. He may call it shots by giving me a grade of five. Ouch. And for professors, giving away "singkos" is not some big deal. Sadly, it means depression and loss of hope to the student. Let's cut the Melancholic part. There are better and more interesting stuff about college. All my sisters on the house help with these: "Boys!"

Yup. The male specie is really one of the reasons for a girl like me to be excited about college. I remember seeing this caption on a bottled pin: "Yes, If not for the boys, I'd quit school." Speaks some truth. And I am not an ultra-unromantic bore. I had my share of romantic moments. They may not really be romantic but they sure are actual acts of a gentleman. Girls easily fall for guys that give them priority, make them feel special and respect them. So I do conclude that I am yet to find the gentleman for me. As the saying goes: "to each, his own" Its been roughly 11 months since these experiences. Time really flies I'm already a college sophomore before it even got to my senses that I was already a college freshman. Time can never be turned back. All we have with us are the memories we keep in our hearts. And my first year in college is one of those. With this, I close the curtains. "Carpe Diem!"

rning Center

INTELLECT INAUGURATION

Intellect–the Information Technology Learning Center, an educational partnership between SM (Shoemart) Foundation and IBM Philippines, inaugurated its new branch in the San Fernando Tower in Binondo. Cutting the ribbon is Dr. Lucio C. Tan, a well-known business tycoon in the Philippines. Also shown are Agnes Africa, IBM Learning Services Manager; Joanne dela Cuesta, Intellect Director; and Dr. Paulino Tan, Asia Pacific College President. Intellect offers the IBM Diploma in Advanced Computer Software Engineering and short courses on Web Site Design and Programming, MS Office Applications, Networking, Programming, Desktop Publishing, and Contact Center Education. Other branches are located in SM North Edsa and APC Magallanes. For more information, e-mail intellect@apc.edu.ph or call 245-4886 or 5654.

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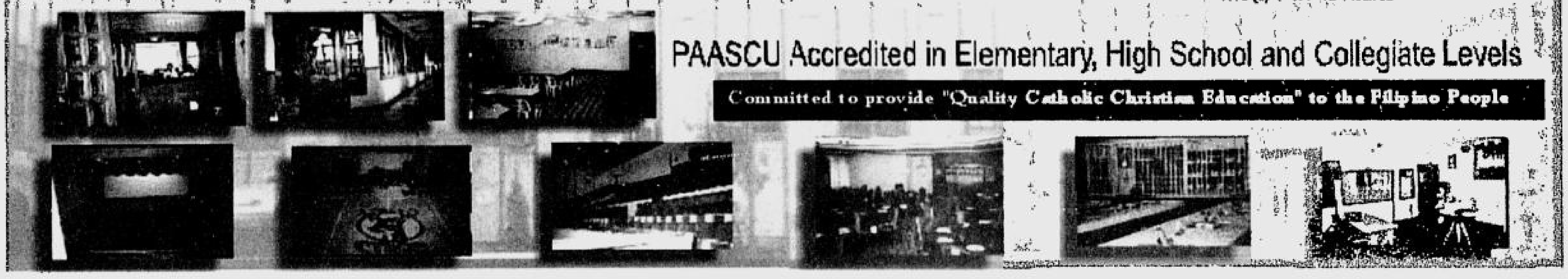

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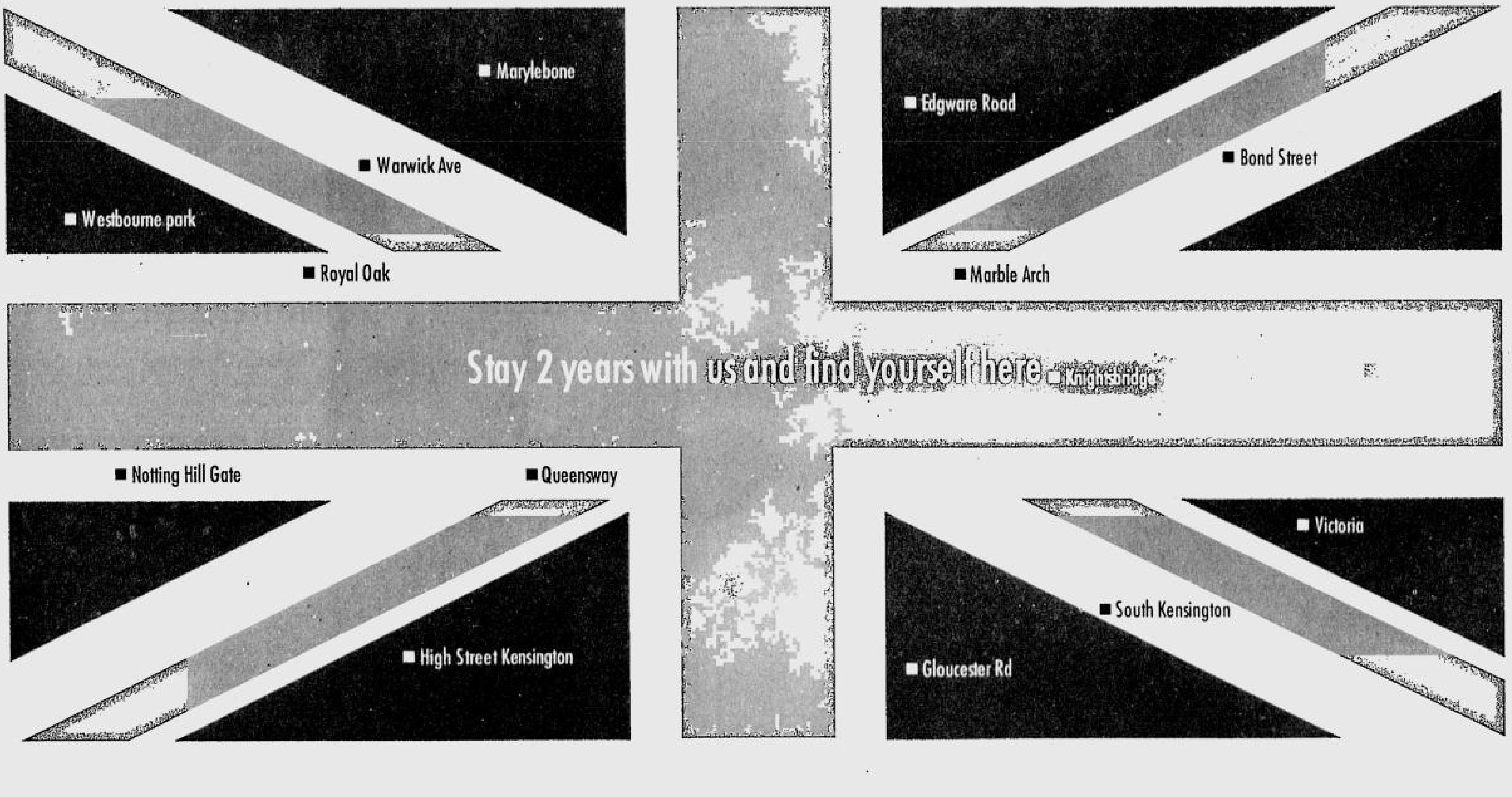

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CYNTHIA Albano, Esther Dazo, Jean Muñiz and Mabel Sotto (standing); Liza Almendra, Dulce Lucban and Nomer Pabilona (seated)

SEN. TESSIE Oreta, Helen Gamboa Sotto and Len Oreta

APPLE Sotto

Barrio fiesta and birthdays

From page L1

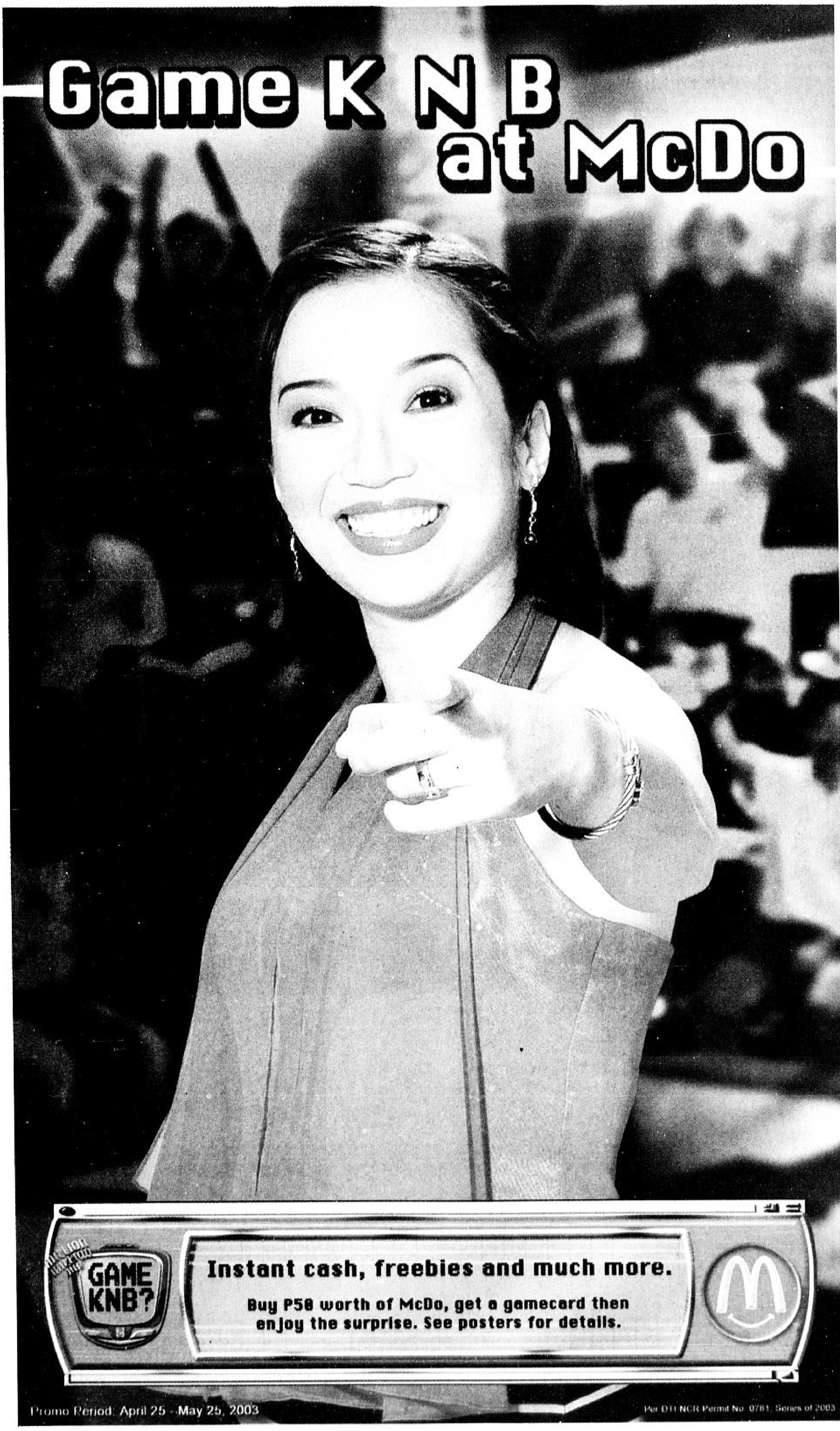
Plus one

Petite **Charmaine Cruz** may look delicate, but behind the Dresden doll-like features and unassuming ways is a smart and dynamic woman who runs her own advertising agency aptly called Provocateur. Charmaine graduated from the Ateneo de Manila University with a degree in Interdisciplinary Studies. She is at present completing her Masters in Industrial Organizational Psychology at the same school.

At Provocateur, Charmaine does not only render traditional advertising services to clients; she also conducts training workshops on organizational development, as well as qualitative and quantitative research.

Charmaine celebrated her birthday recently with an intimate cocktail reception at the Makati Shangri-La Hotel's French restaurant Cheval Blanc. Aside from corporate friends like Citibank's **Eric Alberto**, Megaworld's **Noli Hernandez**, Credit Suisse's **Jessie Tan** and **Carolle Ong**, Development Bank of the Philippines' **Gerry Arellano** and Empower Consulting's **Roj Cruz**, Charmaine's well-wishers also included senatorial sons **Paco Magsaysay** and **Mark Villar**, sportswriter Bill Velasco, former Ilocos Sur Governor **Luis "Chavit" Singson, Evangeline Alberto** of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board, businessman **Ernie Liwanag**, Alay Lakad president **Frank Evaristo** and society host **Johnny Litton**, who offered a rousing toast for the pretty birthday girl.

POPS Fernandez and Ciara Sotto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Inner meaning of events, writing for healing

THE SIGNIFICANCE of current world events, especially to Filipinos, will be discussed at the Open Evening series of the Center for Health and Creative Arts (Chacra) 6-8 p.m., April 28.

Inner perspectives on current events like the United States-led war against Iraq, SARS and other remarkable natural and man-made occurrences will be presented at "The Inner Meaning of Current World Events."

Guest speakers are Georgina Solina and Cecile Gutierrez.

Also to be held at Chacra is a workshop on "Writing for Healing" 2-5 p.m., April 28-29 and May 2.

Benilda Santos and D.M. Reyes will conduct the three sessions to explore principles of healing the self through writing.

Participants need not have previous writing experience.

Chacra is located at 59 C. Salvador St., Loyola Heights, QC. Call 434-5381.

'Healing' weekend for couples

RETROUVAILLE, a program for couples desiring to improve communication, reestablish trust and forgiveness, is being offered for the first time in Pampanga through the Family Life Commission of the Diocese of San Fernando.

A weekend is scheduled on May 2-4 at the Our Father's Home, 54 McArthur Highway, San Fernando, Pampanga.

Retrouville (pronounced retro-vye) is French for "rediscovery." Couples, who think their relationships are in trouble, will probably find the help they need in the weekend session.

Pampanga residents can call Jun and Edna at (045) 963-7827 and 877-7224, or Fred and Son at (045) 877-0376; in Manila, Fr. Dave Clay at 523-3361, CF at (0918) 902-0511, or Ike and Flor at 718-0689. Inquiries will be kept confidential.

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Send resumé w/ picture to:
Brgy. #837 Sn. Pedro St.
Kalawaan, Pasig City

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invites
Top Achievers in our IT job openings:

Systems Analyst (code: DSLS)
Interested candidates must possess the following qualifications:
- At least a bachelor's degree
- Technical mastery of MVS, TSO, PL/1, JCL, SAS, Visual Basic, MS Access, Teradata SQL, Syncsort, and Endevor
- Additional key skills include Communication & Collaboration, Problem Solving, Personal Leadership, Prioritization, and Innovative Thinking applied to Incident/Problem/Change Management and Project Management

Systems Analyst (code: EDI)
- At least a bachelor's degree holder
- Excellent communication skills
- Be able to work with a remote team
- Knowledge of EDI transactions, experience with EDI data model development using the GEIS Application Integrator (AI) 4.0 tools specifically Trade Guide, Workbench and Rule Builder preferred but not necessary
- Knowledge of XML transactions including DTD (document type definitions) preferred but not necessary
- Fundamental knowledge of UNIX and SAP, and Oracle.

Systems Analyst (code: UCS)
- At least a bachelor's degree
- Excellent communication skills.
- Be able to work with a remote team.
- Experience, knowledge and skills in MVS/TSO, PL/I, DB2/SQL, JCL, Syncsort, Teradata, I3, Endevor, Zeke, CLISTS and batch processing.
- Fundamental knowledge of Lotus Notes and EDI Mapping. Familiar with creating and editing Excel, Word documents, etc.

Systems Analyst (code: SM)
- At least a bachelor's degree
- Technical Mastery (experience preferred, but will train a self-motivated, technically capable individual)
- SAP R/3 (configuration, ABAP/4, Job scheduling, IDoc processing, ALE, security profile/authorization, basic knowledge of MM,PP,PM,FI,CO,SD,WM modules)
- UNIX (shell scripting, file management, FTP), Oracle
- Thinking/Problem Solving skills - sorts through complex data; gathers other relevant viewpoints; thinks through alternatives
- Communication & Collaboration skills - working effectively with others, demonstrates integrity and high personal standards. Builds and maintains productive working relationships. Respects and works effectively with diverse people; enables all to contribute their best work

Systems Analyst (code: AFRS)
The role requires implementation of Finance and Accounting transaction systems (mainly in SAP) in a Global environment. It requires understanding of Business processes, configuring SAP to meet business needs, planning for migration and cut-over, Training end-users and managing actual migration, cut-over and verification. Qualifications:
- At least a bachelor's degree with maximum 3 eyars experience
- F&A Knowledge / IT Knowledge/ ERP Knowledge preferred but not necessary

Please send your resumes to:
SEARCHERS & STAFFERS CORP.
3rd Floor, The Lydia Building, # 39 Polaris St. Bel-Air, Makati City
Tel Nos.: 8966794 / 8967061 / 8960527
Fax No.: 896-0501
Email address: searchers.sl@pacific.net.ph

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The WOMEN'S HEALTH & SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROJECT-PARTNERSHIPS COMPONENT

a project of the Government of the Philippines, executed by the Department of Health with funding support from the European Union (EU)

The WHSMP-PC works in close collaboration with its Partners, the DOH Centers for Health Development, LGUs and NGOs, to improve the health status of women through the use of community health development techniques, which enable women at the barangay level identify and articulate their health needs and be involved in developing and implementing plans to achieve positive changes for health

The Project is currently seeking a highly qualified and experienced

Community Development Specialists

for its offices in Manila and Tacloban

Qualifications:
The person we are looking for will have: a relevant social science qualification and knowledge and experience in community development and women's health, have experience in working with community based NGOs. He/She will be responsible for the provision of technical advice and support to the Project's partners, possession of highly developed interpersonal skills and effective communications skills are mandatory.

ONLY INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE ABOVE QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD APPLY.

Interested and Qualified Applicants should submit their letter of response and a comprehensive resumé by e-mail or fax on or before 02 May 2003, to:

WHSMP-PC

THE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Women's Health Project—Partnerships Component
5B Osmeña Bldg., 1991 A. Mabini Street, Malate, Manila
Fax: (632) 536-6406 E-mail: fad-whsm@pacific.net.ph

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- computer literate
- w/ research background

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- ✓ With good communication skills
- ✓ Service-oriented, flexible, highly-motivated, responsible and organized
- ✓ Preferably with experience in gas stations or food chain operations

TREASURY STAFF **
- ✓ Graduate of B.S. Accountancy
- ✓ Female, not more than 28 years old
- ✓ Preferably with at least 1 year experience in bank reconciliation, voucher preparation, etc.
- ✓ Computer literate (Proficient in MS Excel)
- ✓ Good in oral and written communication skills
- ✓ Capable of working under minimum supervision
- ✓ Responsible, hardworking, highly-flexible, and trustworthy

BUSINESS DEV'T OFFICERS
- ✓ Graduate of Engineering (e.g. ChE, ME, IE), Science (e.g. Chem. Physics) or Business (e.g. Marketing, Management, Economics) course
- ✓ Male/Female, below 30 years old
- ✓ Aggressive, highly motivated, result-oriented and resourceful
- ✓ Preferably with experience in industrial selling and consumer products (lubricants)
- ✓ Licensed driver (an advantage)

SERVICE CREW **
- ✓ At least 2nd year college or vocational level
- ✓ Male/Female, not more than 26 years old
- ✓ Presentable appearance, at least 5'4" in height
- ✓ Of good moral character, honest and hardworking

DECK & ENGINE OFFICERS / DECK & ENGINE RATINGS
- ✓ Marine Transportation or Marine Engineering graduate
- ✓ With experience in tankers
- ✓ Complete seaman papers, medically fit, particularly with good eyesight and hearing

ELECTRICAL ENGINEER
- ✓ Male not more than 35 years old
- ✓ Licensed Electrical Engineer
- ✓ With at least 3 years relevant work experience
- ✓ Familiar with industry standards especially in electrical designs
- ✓ With knowledge in HVAC, motor control and installation in hazardous areas
- ✓ Can work with minimum supervision

WAREHOUSE FOREMAN
- ✓ Graduate of any Engineering course
- ✓ Male not more than 35 years old
- ✓ Familiar with stocks items, stock codes and can identify spare parts or warehouse items
- ✓ With at least three years work experience in the same field
- ✓ Must have good memory and good mechanical reasoning ability
- ✓ Knowledgeable in using database programming
- ✓ Good communication skills and service-oriented

ACCOUNTING STAFFS **
- ✓ Graduate of BS Accountancy
- ✓ Male/Female, not more than 28 years old
- ✓ Preferably with at least 1 year experience in accounting (inventory, audit, financial statements etc.)
- ✓ Can work with minimum supervision
- ✓ Computer literate (Proficient in MS Excel)
- ✓ Responsible, hardworking, highly-flexible, organized and trustworthy

CASHIER **
- ✓ Preferably a graduate of Accountancy, Management or Computer Science
- ✓ Male/Female, below 30 years old
- ✓ With experience in cashiering, customer service or accounting, an advantage

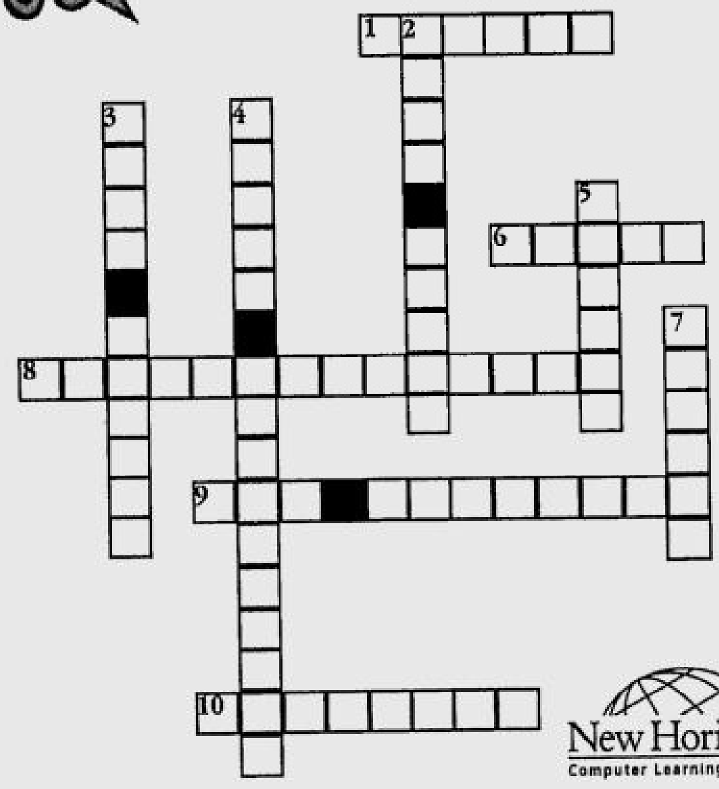
RETAIL ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS OFFICER
- ✓ With experience in handling Marketing requirements for service stations an advantage
- ✓ With very good communication skills

** Fresh and highly trainable graduates may apply.

Send your resumé or bio-data to

SEAOIL PHILIPPINES, INCORPORATED
Human Resources Department
933 Claro Castañeda St., Brgy. Namayan, Mandaluyong City
For appointment and further inquiries, plese contact
531- 90-51 to 55.

Check out this week's challenging crossword!



New Horizons
Computer Learning Centers

Using the clues below, fill up the puzzle correctly and completely.
Then send it to **PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER** Chino Roces Ave. Makati City
or any **Inquirer Branch**, along with your personal details for a chance to gift certificates
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ACROSS
1 Serto-Omega is located at 31-A Love St., St. ___ Subd, Las Piñas, MM (see p. 09)
6 Known worldwide for its high quality clothing & accessories (see p.05)
8 Company that makes Filipino lives better (see p. 02)
9 The Ad Agency asking why should they hire you (see p. 05)
10 Ms. Karen Decker is from the Governance & ___ Cooperation Division of ADB (see p.09)

DOWN
2 OT aka overtime is sometimes called (see p.12)
3 The personality development guru (see p.08)
4 U-BIX is in need of ___ (see p. 07)
5 Ateneo ___ for Organization & Research & Development (see p.12)
7 Jollibee is recognized as a Global ___ Company (see p.06)

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- ✓ proficient in computer software applications
- ✓ team player, goal oriented and able to work well under pressure
- ✓ willing to grow with the organization
- ✓ willing to work on weekends and holidays

Interested parties may send their comprehensive resumé with recent photo to:

SM Inc.
SM Corporate office; Bldg. D
1000 Bay Boulevard, SM Central Business Park
Bay City, Pasay City

Metro Manila based applicants may apply personally from Monday to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at the above address. (Please bring 3 pcs. 2x2 colored picture with white background and photo copy of your Transcript of Records and College Diploma together with the original copy).

E-mail: Recruit.SM.HO@sm-shoemart.com

OPERATIONS GROUP

BUILDING ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

male, graduate of Business Administration, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering; with at least two (2) years work experience in property management and building administration in the same capacity; able to lead group and prioritize work load to meet deadlines

SELLING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

with at least one (1) year experience in retail operations, food chain or in sales; personable and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

CUSTOMER SERVICE MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

female, graduate of any 4-year business course; with pleasing personality and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively; with at least one (1) to two (2) years experience in customer service

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

female, with at least one (1) year experience in credit card transactions in the same capacity; flexible and can handle customer concerns and complaints effectively

WAREHOUSE MANAGER/ SUPERVISOR

male, graduate of any 4-year business course; with intensive experience in warehousing and other related functions preferably in retail business; able to lead and motivate staff and foster a team working environment

CUSTOMER SERVICE RELATIONS MANAGER/SUPERVISOR

male, 5'5 1/2" in height, female, 5'2" in height, graduate of Criminology or at least 2nd year college; flexible to different work assignments and willing to be assigned in provincial branches; must be physically fit and willing to work on extended hours; at least one (1) year related work experience

SUPPORT/ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANT

• Manager • Officer • Supervisor

with at least two (2) years work experience in all accounting operations in the same capacity

ADVERTISING & PROMOTIONS MANAGER/COORDINATOR

Bachelor's Degree in Marketing or Communications; with at least one (1) to two (2) years experience in advertising; must be creative and with good fashion sense; good verbal and written communication skills required

TREASURY MANAGER

female, graduate of Accounting or Banking & Finance; with at least two (2) years supervisory experience in accounting, funds management or treasury functions; familiar with banking operations and central bank procedures

TRAINING OFFICER/TRAINER

graduate of Education, Psychology, Behavioral Science or any 4-year Business course; at least two (2) years related work experience; knowledgeable in the conduct of training needs analysis, design, implementation and evaluation of training programs and activities related to behavior and skills of employees

CIVIL ENGINEER

(For Metro Manila branches)

female/male, licensed Engineer; at least one (1) year work expeience in construction project is an advantage

DISPLAY OFFICER

graduate of Fine Arts or any 4-year related course; with at least one (1) year experience in visual merchandising

COMPUTER OPERATOR/TECHNICIAN

male, graduate of Computer Science/Engineering; preferably with experience in the repair, trouble shooting and maintenance of cash register

---

A 5-Star Hotel that provides superior value to its clients, as well as to its employees, is inviting qualified applicants for

TRAINING and PERSONNEL MANAGER

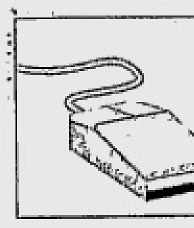
to share in the achievement of its vision

- ✔ Male or female, not more than 50 years old
- ✔ Graduate of a Behavioral Science course or other related courses, preferably with master's degree
- ✔ Extensive experience in Personnel focusing on Career Development, Performance Management System as well as in the Development of Skills and Personality in accordance to a 5-star hotel standard
- ✔ Demonstrated ability as a trainer and capable to develop training designs for a 5-star hotel
- ✔ Excellent leadership ability
- ✔ Well versed in Philippine Labor Laws

QUALIFIED CANDIDATES ARE INVITED TO SUBMIT PERSONALLY OR MAIL THEIR RESUMÉ WITH A RECENT 2X2 COLORED PHOTO AND CERTIFICATES IF ANY, AT:

Century Park Hotel

599 Pablo Ocampo Street, Malate, Manila 1004
or
P.O. Box 117, CPO 1099, MANILA
email: prod_classifieds@inquirer.com.ph
(subject: century)



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- ➲ Willing to occupy a confidential, technical, and supervisory position
- ➲ With Leadership Skills
- ➲ Must belong to the Top 8 examinees after taking the company exam.

Compensation Package

Three (3) Months Training	PhP 7,500/Month Allowance
Starting Pay	PhP 10,500/Month Plus Incentives and Bonus

The company reviewer for data controllers is downloadable at www.amellar.com
Selected applicants will be invited for the company exam.

Send your resumé with contact numbers and cover letter to:

The Technology Manager
c/o the Administrative Officer
OLTP/OOP Division
Amellar Corporation
46 April St., Congressional Village,
Project 8, Quezon City

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MANAGEMENT TRAINEES

Graduate of any courses such as Management, Accounting, Computer Courses, Nursing, P.T., O.T., R.T., Med-Tech, Education, HRM, Masscom
• 21-35 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

At least 2nd year College of any course • 24-38 years old
Interested parties may apply personally with RESUMÉ, any original credential/ + valid ID. Hiring will start on April 21-26 03, 8 AM - 5 PM Mon.-Sat.

Apply at:

P.P.P.I., Suite 808 West Tower, Phil. Stock Exchange Center, formerly Tektite Tower Exchange Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City (Back of Mega Mall near San Miguel Bldg.)
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INVESTOR - TELEPHONE PROJECT
(Ticao, Masbate)

Looking for investor with P3.5M for the San Jacinto/San Fernando, Ticao, Masbate telephone landline business. (The company will be the PLDT in Ticao, Masbate) Investor should be hands-on manager of the business and preferably from Masbate or Sorsogon.

Business has a 3-4 year pay back period.

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(0917) 530-9478

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- Male or Female, 25-35 years old
- Graduate of any course
- With experience in any food chain
- With good moral character

Service Crew/Cashiers
- Male or Female, 20-28 years old
- At least 2nd year college
- With experience in any food chain

Computer Mechanic
- Male, 20-29 years old
- At least 2nd year college
- With experience in computer software/ hardware and electrical

Accounting Clerk/ Secretary
- Female, 20-30 years old
- College graduate
- Computer literate and with experience in cashiering

Send your resumé now! at

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Tel No 732-0289

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OD Supervisor (ODS-Trn)

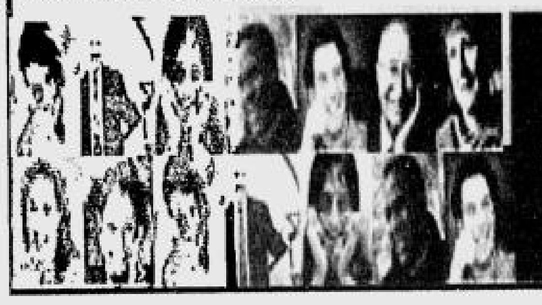
The OD Supervisor will be responsible for designing, developing, implementing and monitoring of training programs for staff and management levels. The specific area of discipline would cover a broad range of Organizational Development functions. The candidates must have sufficient exposure to interactive and integrative approaches to teaching/learning and excellent presentation skills. They must be highly organized, creative and assertive. The ideal candidate must be a university-degree holder in any of the following fields: Psychology, Human Resource Management, Industrial Engineering or Organizational Development. Post Graduate degree/s or units; a knowledge of TQM/ISO processes and an experience with a call center environment are advantages.Candidates between the ages of 25-30 years old, single and who are willing to work shifts are preferred.

Business Development Associate (BDA-EO)

The Business Development Associate will report to the CEO/COO and will assist in a number of projects and tasks including the following: 1) Analytic projects - Industry/Competitive reports and research, preparation of executive meeting/board presentations; 2) Marketing/Sales - Assist in the development of marketing materials and in filling out Request for Information and Proposal documents; and, 3) Operations - Working with operations team in CEO/COO sponsored operations projects. Ideal candidates must have 1 to 2 years of experience in marketing, operations or finance role and excellent academic credentials. He/She must possess some financial modeling capability, excellent communication and writing skills in English and familiarity with MS Office, particularly Excel.

Senior Language Training Specialist (SLTS-Trn)

The candidate will be responsible for designing and conducting courses on Communications, Accent and Grammar. She will also facilitate language-coaching sessions and conduct on-floor language audit to capture lapses in language skill. Ideal candidates are 24-35 year-old graduates of HR, Psychology or Communication Languages, preferably female and single, with at least 2 years experience in corporate training and in teaching TOEFL, TESOL, Grammar and/or English as a Second Language (ESL), and/or English as a Foreign Language (EFL). Exposure to the call center industry, certification/s as a Language/Accent/English trainer, an ability to speak any European language or experience in speech or language coaching are definite advantages.



Interested parties are requested to submit their comprehensive resume indicating the position to:

GLOBALSTRIDE CUSTOMER SOLUTIONS
Attn: Human Resources Department
29/F IBM Plaza, Eastwood City Cyberpark, E. Rodriguez Avenue, Bagumbayan, Quezon City
Email: jobs@webservasia.com.ph
Fax No: 911-8854

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(To be assigned at the Manila International Airport Authority (MIAA), Parañaque City)

- Male/Female
- Degree in Medicine
- Not more than 40 years old
- Professional License preferred but not a requirement

ACCOUNTING CLERKS

- Male/Female
- Graduate of BS Accountancy
- Not more than 27 years old
- With or without work experience

APPRAISERS

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Graduate of any Engineering course with Professional License
- Preferably with experience in any operating banks appraising Real Estate Properties / Personal Properties.

MECHANICAL ENGINEER

- Male, not more than 35 years old
- Registered Mechanical Engineer
- 5 to 7 years experience in project management
- Proficient in the use of MS Word / Excel / Autocad Softwares

Interested applicants are invited to visit our office at the 9th Floor **Century Tower, 100 Tordesillas cor. H.V. dela Costa St. Salcedo Village, Makati City.** Inquiries may be directed to **Ms. Valerie R. Lababit at 753-1625.**
You may also email us at **lbpsc@mozcom.com**

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COLLEGE INSTRUCTORS

- Holder of any four-year college degree with competence of the courses he/she has to teach
- Preferably completed the master's degree or with MA/MS units or PRC teacher's license
- Specialization in any of the following course areas is a must: Social Science, Science, English, Humanities, Math, Information Technology or Computer Science, Mass Communication, Human Resources, Finance, Physical Education

PSYCHOMETRICIAN

- Graduate of BS Psychology
- Preferably with experience in the administration of standardized tests
- With excellent oral and written communication skills

COLLEGE CHAIRS FOR IT/COMPUTER & MASS COMM.

- Has completed the master's degree in IT/Computer Technology
- Has completed the master's degree in Mass Communication

SCHOOL DRIVER

- With at least one yr experience
- Holder of a professional driver's license

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We guarantee your continued professional and personal growth.

Qualified applicants are requested to send their resumé, transcript of records and recent 2x2 photo or come for the submission and evaluation of requirements on **April 28-30, 2003.**

Human Resource Office, Southville International School and Colleges
1281 Tropical Avenue corner Luxembourg St., BF International, Las Piñas City
Tel. Nos. 820-8702/03 or 825-6374 local 106

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The WOMEN'S HEALTH & SAFE MOTHERHOOD PROJECT ~ PARTNERSHIPS COMPONENT

a project of the Government of the Philippines, executed by the Department of Health with funding support from the European Union (EU)

The WHSMP~PC aims to improve the health and status of women, through the use of community health development techniques which enable women at the barangay level to identify and articulate their health needs and be involved in developing and implementing plans to achieve positive changes for health.

An important component of these plans is the Womens Health Actions (WHAs) which include some small infrastructure projects such as renovation or construction of barangay health stations and local water supply projects. To ensure the proper and timely completion of these projects, as well as to build the capability of the women/ Womens Organization to manage them:

The Project is currently seeking a highly qualified and experienced

PROJECT MANAGERS ~ SMALL INFRASTRUCTURE

for its office in Tacloban

Key Tasks

- ☐ Advise and support [Women's] Community Organisations responsible for Project planning and implementation
- ☐ Supervise and progress implementation of [small] infrastructure projects, to ensure both compliance with prevailing building codes/regulations and timely completion, within budget
- ☐ Coordinate purchasing/procurement and control stores and materials and identify and solve implementation problems promptly
- ☐ Liaise with relevant LGU and Department of Health personnel, including engineers, and with third party contractors, as required

Qualifications and Experience

- ☐ Must be registered/licensed [Civil] Engineer or Architect
- ☐ Must have extensive experience in the management of infrastructure Projects and troubleshooting delays in construction activities to expedite their completion
- ☐ Effective and positive communication with clients
- ☐ Preparation of project progress and completion reports

A DETAILED POSITION DESCRIPTION IS AVAILABLE ON REQUEST & ONLY INDIVIDUALS WHO MEET THE ABOVE QUALIFICATIONS SHOULD APPLY.

Engagement will be on a contractual basis ~ interested and appropriately qualified individuals should submit their letter of response and a comprehensive resumé on or before 02 May 2003, to:

WHSMP-PC

THE HUMAN RESOURCE MANAGEMENT OFFICER
Women's Health Project — Partnerships Component
5B Osmeña Bldg., 1991 Mabini St.
Malate, Manila
Fax: (632) 536-6406 E-mail: fad-whsm@pacific.net.ph

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one call at a time

OPERATIONS MANAGER (Code: PDI-OM)

- Must have previous inbound sales experience and managed a group of supervisors / team leaders
- The candidate will be responsible for managing the customer service and call center departments involving all activities which contribute to the acquisition, satisfaction and retention of customers. He/She must have previous Inbound Sales and Customer Service Management experience.

INBOUND SALES CUSTOMER INTERACTION ASSOCIATES (Code: PDI-ISCIA)

- Must have excellent English communication skills and previous sales experience preferably in a call center
- Telemarketing experience a plus

TEAM CAPTAINS (Code: PDI-TC)

- 1 year previous supervisory experience a must
- Must have excellent English communication skills

FRONT DESK ASSOCIATE (Code: PDI-FDA)

- Must have excellent English communication skills
- Previous reception work experience a must

ACCOUNTING ASSISTANT (Code: PDI-AA)

- Must be an Accounting graduate with at least 1 year accounting experience
- Computer literate

Mail your updated resumé with picture
(please indicate the code in the upper right hand corner) to:
ambergris solutions
31/F Discovery Centre, 25 ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City

Or email your resumé to: lisa.areglado@ambergrissolutions.com

Walk-ins accepted Mon-Fri between 9:30am-5:30pm.
Be prepared for immediate interview.

ambergris solutions

TANGGOL KALIKASAN

a public interest environmental law office
is in need of an

ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

MAIN TASKS

Responsible for the daily management of the office
Assist in Project Development matters
Has pro-active role in office policy development & implementation
Perform liaison work for and with the Board of Trustees
Prepare documentation of office meetings
Coordinate activities of staff & TK offices
Assist in liaison work

Qualifications

Organized and self-motivated
good communication skills in English & Filipino
can work with minimum supervision
computer literate

Submit letter of intent and resumé by May 5, 2003.

Tanggol Kalikasan
Rm. 403 CRM III Building,
106 Kamias Road, Quezon city
Tel: (02)9255611-12; (02)4348734;
Telefax: (02)4349141
E-mail: sabyte@i-manila.com.ph

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Requirements:

2x2 pictures • Passport & NBI • Old passport w/ previous employer's visa • High priority for ex-Singapore, Hong Kong, Middle East & Taiwan

INTERVIEW WITH PRINCIPAL ON:
April 28, 29 and 30, 2003
9:30 a.m. to 12:00 noon —
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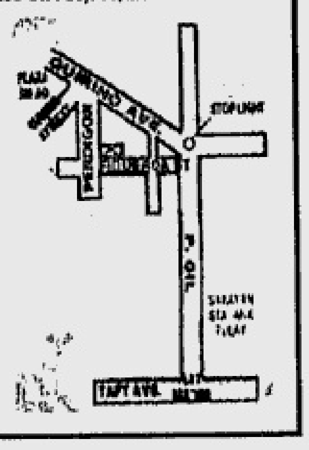

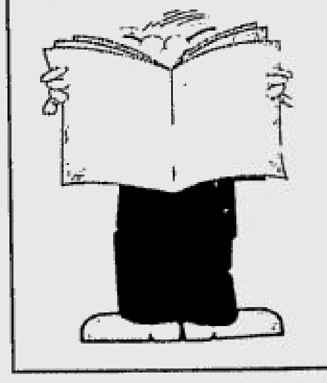

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AMERICAN EXPRESS ®

American Express Bank invites applications for:

TRUST OPERATIONS OFFICER (Code: TrOO)

- Graduate of a business course
- At least 5 years Bank experience in Trust Operations and Accounting
- Strong analytical and problem-solving skills to identify and implement cost-efficient measures
- Results oriented and a self starter
- Demonstrated collaboration and interpersonal skills
- Strong English communication skills (oral and written)
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel

TRUST SALES EXECUTIVE (Code : TrSE)

- Graduate of a business course
- At least 3 years Bank experience in marketing trust products
- High level of customer service orientation
- Strong interpersonal and communication skills (oral and written)
- Result oriented and a self starter
- Effective networking and relationship skills
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word & Excel

TRUST ACCOUNTANT (Code: TrA)

- Graduate of Accounting or any business course
- At least 3 years banking experience in Trust Accounting
- Strong analytical skills and financial acumen
- Knowledge of Microsoft Word and Excel

Please submit your coded comprehensive resume with recent 2X2 colored picture to:

American Express Bank
A Savings Bank
29th Floor, 6795 PBCOM Tower
Ayala Ave. cor V.A Rufino St.
Makati City

LYCEUM OF THE PHILIPPINES
INTRAMUROS, MANILA

is in need of

FULL-TIME/PART-TIME INSTRUCTORS IN:

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English
History
Humanities
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Computer Science
Information Management
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Economics
Diplomacy
Foreign Service

International Trade
Political Science
Hotel and Restaurant Management (HRM)
Tourism
Computer Engineering
Electronics and Communication Engineering (ECE)
Chinese (Mandarin)
Japanese
French
Spanish

Basic Qualifications: Must have a Master's degree, licensed (if applicable), with at least two (2) years teaching experience, and fluent in English.

For the I.T. courses, must have a Master's degree with two (2) years experience in teaching Information and Communication Technology (ICT) courses (beyond computer literacy level) or at least three (3) years experience in the ICT profession.

ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF

Encoders/Clerks
Laboratory Assistants

Basic Qualifications: For Encoders/Clerks, they must be graduates of Accounting, Computer Science, Office Management, Business Management, or Secretarial Administration. For Laboratory Assistants, they must be graduates of Biology or Engineering, 23 to 35 years of age, computer-literate, and good in both oral and written communication.

Send application letter, resumé, transcript of records, and ID picture to:

THE HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
Lyceum of the Philippines
Intramuros, Manila

DO YOU HAVE THE TALENT TO WORK WITH US?

BCD Pinpoint is an advertising agency specializing in direct marketing and customer relationship management. We're looking for talented people to be part of our creative and accounts teams.

GRAPHIC ARTIST
- proficient in Freehand, Photoshop, Pagemaker and Illustrator
- good illustrator
- excellent conceptualization and design skills
- willing to work long hours
- knowledge in web design or experience in a related field is a plus

COPYWRITER
- has passion and talent for writing
- versatile - able to write in different styles
- impeccable grammar in English
- comfortable writing in Filipino
- creative and witty
- copywriting experience is a plus
- willing to work long hours

ACCOUNT MANAGER
- female
- with pleasant disposition
- 2002 or 2003 graduate of a management or business course from a reputable school
- excellent written and verbal communication skills
- highly organized
- team player

TELL US WHY WE SHOULD HIRE YOU.

WRITE US A LETTER and e-mail it together with your CV to **apply@bcdpinpoint.com.** Please indicate in the subject field of your e-mail the position you're applying for: **"GA"** for graphic artist; **"CW"** for copywriter; and **"AM"** for account manager. Please send your CV and letter to us no later than **May 15, 2003.**

FLORIDA: AVENTURA • WEST PALM BEACH • ATLANTIS • MIAMI (2 HOSPITALS) • FT. PIERCE • MARGATE • LOXAHATCHEE • OKEECHOBEE • PORT ST. LUCIE • TAMARAC • PLANTATION (2 HOSPITALS) • SANFORD • FT. WALTON BEACH • PANAMA CITY • LAKE CITY • JACKSONVILLE (2 HOSPITALS) • GAINESVILLE • OCALA (2 HOSPITALS) • ORANGE PARK • ORLANDO • TALLAHASSEE • NICEVILLE • PENSACOLA • BRADENTON • BRANDON • NEW PORT RICHEY • SARASOTA • ST. PETERSBURG (3 HOSPITALS) • ENGLEWOOD • PORT CHARLOTTE • FORT MYERS (2 HOSPITALS) • LARGO • SPRING HILL • HUDSON • SUN CITY CENTER • **TEXAS**: PASADENA • WEBSTER • ALVIN • CONROE • CORPUS CHRISTI (4 HOSPITALS) • HOUSTON (5 HOSPITALS) • KINGWOOD • TEXAS CITY • MCALLEN • BROWNSVILLE • EL PASO (3 HOSPITALS) • DENTON • DALLAS (2 HOSPITALS) • ARLINGTON • IRVING • LEWISVILLE • PLANO • MCKINNEY • N. RICHLAND HILLS • FT. WORTH • AUSTIN (7 HOSPITALS) • ROUND ROCK (2 HOSPITALS) • **NEVADA**: LAS VEGAS (2 HOSPITALS) • **LOUISIANA**: MARKSVILLE • NEW IBERIA • NEW ORLEANS (2 HOSPITALS) • METAIRIE • COVINGTON • LAFAYETTE (2 HOSPITALS) • MONROE • OAKDALE • ALEXANDRIA • MAMOU • WINNIFIELD • **NORTH CAROLINA**: DURHAM (2 HOSPITALS) • RALEIGH • **ARIZONA**: PHOENIX (5 HOSPITALS)

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To qualify, you must have at least one year of recent experience in a 200+ bed hospital and be fluent in English. Required documents include: resume, college diploma, transcript of records, board ratings, board certificate, PRC ID, updated employment certificate, birth certificate, passport and marriage certificate, if any, and any results of CGFNS/NCLEX / TOEFL / TSE / IELTS exams, plus 4 pcs. 2x2 colored photos. **Deadline** for submission of application is **May 9, 2003** for interviews in **Manila.**

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Philippine Overseas Employment Administration

Apply at: GOVERNMENT PLACEMENT BRANCH • LEFT WING, WINDOWS O AND P • GROUND FLR., POEA BUILDING, EDSA COR. ORTIGAS AVENUE • MANDALUYONG CITY or your local POEA representative office

CEBU INTERVIEWS: May 8 &9, 2003
Please file your application with the POEA officer in charge, 3rd flr. Gemini Building, 719 MJ Cuenca Ave. Cebu City (032) 233-4190, by May 6, 2003. Or with your local POEA representative in the region.

Strengthening the Foundations of Lasting Peace and Development in Southern Philippines - PHI/01/001

The United Nations Volunteers (UNV) is inviting applicants who can qualify for National UN Volunteer posts for the Government of the Philippines-United Nations/Multi-Donor Program (GoP-UN/MDP3), a peace and development programme in Southern Philippines.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

Reporting to the Area Coordinator and province of assignment, the staff shall:
1) Provide technical assistance to the Volunteers for Information and Development Assistance (VIDA), Peace and Development Advocates (PDAs), Community Development Managers, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), People's Organizations (POs) and the Local Government Units (LGUs) in community development planning and investment programming, resource mobilization, networking and linkaging, project implementation, monitoring and evaluation in the Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) and other post-conflict areas;
2) Facilitate convergence of development assistance from GOP-UN/MDP3 Government Organizations (GOs), NGOs and ODAs in the PDCs and other post-conflict areas;
3) Facilitate promotion of the culture of volunteerism by organizing more volunteer activities in their area of assignment in collaboration with the UNV County Office in Manila;
4) Prepare periodic reports to the Area Coordinator relative to the GOP-UN/MDP3 and other development activities in their respective areas of assignment; and
5) Perform other tasks assigned by the Area Coordinator.

Qualifications: Bachelor's degree in social-science disciplines; minimum two (2) years experience in community development in Peace and Development Communities (PDCs) and other post-conflict areas in Mindanao; experience on participatory development planning process and governance, with good knowledge on culture of peace and traditional systems of resolving conflicts in the PDCs, networking and linkaging, right-based and results-based management, project cycle management (planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation); and must be computer-literate.

Preferably applicants should come from Mindanao, are familiar with the culture, history and current situation in Southern Philippines, and able to converse and write in any of the local dialects. All application letters with comprehensive resume should reach our office on or before 11 May 2003. Address applications to the United Nations Volunteers, Room 210, 2/F NEDA sa Makati Building, 106 Amorsolo St., Legaspi Village, Makati City (via courier) or P.O. Box 7285 Domestic Airport Post Office Lock Box, 1300 Domestic Road, Pasay City (via airmail); Fax no. +63-2-812-8657; email to beatriz.fernandez@undp.org.

WANTED IMMEDIATELY

A rapidly-expanding publishing company needs the following:

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVE

College graduate with Advertising, Marketing or Communications degree, Excellent oral and written communication skills in English, Hard-working, self-motivated

BOOKKEEPER

1-2 years experience as a bookkeeper or accounting clerk.

EDITORIAL ASSISTANT

College graduate with English, Journalism or Communications degree. Excellent written and oral communication skills in English. Organized, able to meet deadlines, hard-working, self-motivated, pro-active.

Please fax resume to

The Office Manager
Fax (02) 724-2688

OFFICE STAFF

Processing & Documentation Staff / Trainors

1. Female/ Mktng/ Business Mgt/ Comp Sci Psych / Educ GRAD.
2. Female/ Any course with good computer knowledge/ Grad or coll Level / Good English

CALL 729 2797
TEXT 0917 4095532
Contact MS. ROSE

GUESS USA

URGENT job opening

Our company is known worldwide for its high quality clothing and accessories. It has a team of dynamic individuals working together in a fast paced and continuously growing environment. We invite you to be a part of our team!

MERCHANDISING MANAGER

QUALIFICATIONS:
*Female, 25-35 years old
*Graduate of Clothing Technology or any related course
*At least two (2) years experience gained in garments retail merchandising in a managerial capacity
*Must be excellent in both oral and written communication, a team player, highly organized, analytical thinker, fashion savvy, with good people skills, willing to travel

ACCOUNTING SUPERVISOR

QUALIFICATIONS:
*Male or Female 35 years old & below
*BS Accountancy graduate, must be a CPA
*With at least 2 years experience in retail,adept with AR/AP
*Excellent comprehension & coordinating skills, diligent, a team player, with a good sense of responsibility

GRAPHIC DESIGNER/ARTIST

QUALIFICATIONS:
*Male or Female, 22-26 years old
*Fine Arts or other computer graphic related courses, can work on MAC (Illustrator & Photoshop/Freehand/Quark express)
*minimum of 1 year experience in Advertising or graphic design
*Highly creative, hardworking, dynamic, pleasant, outgoing trustworthy & willing to work long hours

Qualified applicants are requested to send their comprehensive resumes and 2 x 2 picture to:

THE HRD MANAGER
150 Dll Bldg., San Vicente Rd., Brgy. San Vicente
San Pedro, Laguna
4023
Tel. No. 8086017 to 56 Local 221/246

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Liebert Corporation is the world's leading supplier of computer support systems and the world's largest supplier of precision air conditioning and power protection systems. With over one million installations in 100 countries, Liebert has all the career advantages motivated professionals look for.

With more than one million power and environmental control systems installed throughout more than 100 countries, Liebert has more ways to protect and cool sensitive electronics than anyone. Our power protection line offers the broadest range of solutions in the industry, from surge protection and power conditioning to Uninterruptible Power Supplies in off-line, on-line and line-interactive topologies, software and communications. We believe that collaborating with our customers to improve how we build, market and support our products and services is the only way to maintain our world-class standards.

TECHNICAL SUPPORT ENGINEERS
(JOB CODE – TSE-LIE)

The candidates will respond to product related inquiry for Liebert's Uninterruptable Power Supply product line through phone, e-mail and fax.

Qualification Guidelines:
- Graduate of BS Electronic and Communication Engineering or Electrical Engineering
- Good oral and written English communication skills
- Right attitude, skills and personality to be trained to support Liebert, their distributors, and customers in both technical and commercial areas
- Knowledge, background, and/or work experience in supporting battery backup systems, uninterruptable power supplies (UPS), Single Phase Power Supplies, rectifiers, inverters, high voltage transformers.

A highly competitive compensation & benefits package, state-of-the-art training, and excellent opportunities for career growth await every candidate.

SYKES

Interested applicants may mail or submit their comprehensive resume with photo at: **28th Floor Robinsons Summit Center, 6783 Ayala Avenue, Makati City** or send through e-mail at **hrd@man.ph.sykes.com. Please indicate job code.**

EMERSON
Network Power

Speedy-Tech (Phils.), Inc.
Block 16 Phase IV, PEZA, Rosario, Cavite 4106
Tel. No. (046) 437-0534; 437-0536 /
Fax Nos. (046) 437-0537
E-mail: spdytech@mozcom.com

Due to the company's restructuring, we are in need of the following personnel to fill-up the vacant positions:

ASSISTANT / QUALITY ENGINEER
- Graduate of I.E., E.C.E. or any related Engineering course
- Preferably with background in FMEA, 8D
- Experienced in manufacturing set-up, preferably electronics
- Must have working background on generating procedures
- Has knowledge in ISO9000. Knowledge in EN46002 is a plus
- Must be a good leader and a team player

ASSISTANT / CERTIFICATION ENGINEER
- Male, not more than 28 years old
- Must be a graduate of any 5 year engineering course
- With 1 to 2 years experience in an ISO certified company, preferably in an electronics manufacturing set-up
- With experience in Internal QMS Audit
- Knowledgeable in ISO 9001:2000, knowledge in EN46002 is a plus factor
- Able to generate quality system procedures
- Can work under minimum supervision

PROCESS ENGINEERS [SMT or PCBA]
- Male/Female, 22 TO 28 years old
- Graduate of E.E., E.C.E. or M.E.
- With at least 1 year of experience in PCB Assemblies. (PCBA Process Engineer)
- With at least 1 year of experience in SMT manufacturing process (SMT Process Engineer)
- Familiar with IPC Standards
- Can lead, motivate and with good interpersonal relationship

SMT ENGINEER
- Male; between 24 to 30 years of age
- Graduate of E.E., E.C.E or M.E.
- With at least 1 year experience in SPC, Machine Improvement and Maintenance
- Preferably with expertise in SMT (Panasonic & Yamaha) machine
- Good in oral and written communication skills
- Can lead, motivate and with good interpersonal relationship

FACILITIES TECHNICIAN
- Male; between 25 to 35 years old
- E.C.E. or E.E. graduate from a reputable university
- With work experience as electrician,carpenter,mason,welder,painter,wood/metal fabricator
- With excellent health

Applicants can send their comprehensive resumé with recent 2 X 2" photo and transcript of records to above mentioned address (attention to HRD). Please indicate the position applied in the envelope or as a subject for e-mail users.

Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
MINDANAO ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL
Regions IX, X, XI, XII, Caraga and ARMM

INVITATION FOR EXPRESSION OF INTEREST
CONSULTANCY FOR THE TECHNICAL ASSESSMENT OF MINDANAO DATABASE
GRANT NO. TF 051116, PCF # 159 a

1. The Government of the Philippines through the Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCo) has availed of a grant from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) thru its Development Grant Facility and intends to apply part of the grant proceeds to payments under the contract for the provision of consultancy services for the Technical Assessment of Mindanao data bases.
2. The MEDCo now invites individual consultants to indicate their interest in providing their services. Interested consultants must provide information that they are qualified to perform the services (Comprehensive curriculum vitae, description of similar works / assignments undertaken, experience in similar conditions, and 3-page proposal).
3. Consultants are expected to perform the following services:
    3.1 In close coordination with the MEDCo Secretariat, NEDA Central Office, NEDA Regional Offices and the Regional Planning and Development Office - Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (RPDO-ARMM), and in consultation with Local Government Units (LGUs), Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), and Project Management Offices (PMOs), identify the data needs for planning, monitoring and evaluating development projects, and financial and technical assistance programs for Mindanao.
    3.2 Analyze the situation of data availability vis-à-vis the identified data needs by conducting an inventory of existing Mindanao databases and undertaking an assessment of the capabilities of these databases.
    The assessment should also take into consideration the proposed or on-going activities programs or projects, or technical assistance provided to or undertaken by national or regional agencies related to development or upgrading of information technology capability in the Mindanao regions.
    3.3 Based on the assessment of the capabilities of the databases, prepare a proposal for the establishment of the Mindanao Programs, Activities and Projects (MPAP) database system.
    3.4 Define in the proposal the requirements in terms of the software, hardware and trainings for the successful operation and maintenance of the system.
    3.5 Recommend sustainable institutional arrangements for the administration and maintenance of the system.
    3.6 Present the summary report on the technical assessment and the proposal for the MPAP to the Mindanao Working Group (MWG) Secretariat and relevant agency(ies) for validation, approval and final review.
4. Two (2) Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the World Bank's "Guidelines Selection and Employment of Consultants by World Bank Borrowers" published by the Bank in January 1997, revised in September 1997, January 1999 and May 2002
5. Expression of Interest must be delivered / sent to the address given below not later than 5:00 PM on 2 May 2003
6. Interested Consultants may obtain Terms of Reference and further information at the address given below from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM during working days.

Chairman, Mindanao Economic Development Council
Mindanao Economic Development Council (MEDCo) Secretariat
4th Floor, SSS Building, J P Laurel Avenue, Davao City, Philippines
Telephone No (6382) 221-1345, Fax # 221-7060, E-mail info@medco.gov.ph

---

One Financial Group
is seeking applicants for the following positions:

Sales Manager
This person must have significant experience managing a sales team, preferably in financial services, insurance, real estate or equities.

Sales Advisers
This person must have a strong sales background, preferably in insurance, real estate or equities. This person has excellent interpersonal skills and entrepreneurial drive, is intelligent, aggressive, persistent and determined, and works well both independently and as part of a team.

One Financial Group
We are a financial services provider carrying a full range of investment, insurance and real estate products, and provide needs-based solutions for both Corporate and Personal Clients.
A career with us is based on continuous learning with an emphasis on rigorous training.

Up to the challenge?
Please e-mail, fax or send your résumé or c.v. to:
e-mail: careers@one.com.ph
phone: (63) 2 759-4205 fax: (63) 2 759-4211
address: Suite 912-914, Tower I & Exchange Plaza
Ayala Triangle, Ayala Avenue, Makati City

WANTED IMMEDIATELY
BY A REHABILITATION CENTER FOR A DRUG DEPENDENT TO BE LOCATED IN LAGUNA

A. **PHYSICIANS** - one (1) **PHYSIATRIST** needed, others can be general medicine, male or female with one year experience
B. **NURSES** - male or female with or without experience
C. **NURSING AIDES** - male with or without experience
D. **ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER** - preferably male with experience
E. **COOK** - male or female with experience for a large kitchen operation
F. **COOK HELPERS** - with or without experience
G. **DRIVERS** - with experience

ALL THE ABOVE, A to G PREFERABLY FROM LAGUNA OR NEARBY AREA

H. **OFFICE and LOGISTICS MANAGER** - male or female preferably with experience
I **ACCOUNTANT / BOOKKEEPER** - male of female with two (2) years experience in bookkeeping and accounting
J. **SECRETARY / CASHIER** - can post fidelity bond
K. **MARKETING MANAGER** - with experience in promoting and getting clients for drug dependent rehabilitation

ALL THE ABOVE, H to K PREFERABLY FROM METRO MANILA

Interested applicants are welcome to submit bio-data and latest NBI Clearance at:
Suite 1407 Tektite Tower East,
Pasig City

ST. JOHN'S ACADEMY
San Juan, Metro Manila
needs

TEACHERS

For School Year 2003-2004

The applicant must be:
1. 21 to 30 years old
2. A BSE graduate of High School and a BEED graduate for Grade School
3. Proficient in English

Bring credentials.

Apply at:
148 Jose Gil St. (former Valenzuela St.)
San Juan, Metro Manila
From 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

ATTENTION: RESIDENTS OF
- ☞ ILOCOS
- ☞ PANGASINAN
- ☞ TARLAC
- ☞ ZAMBALES
- ☞ BULACAN

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*In 2002, we were ranked among **ASIA'S BEST EMPLOYERS**, the only Philippine company in the list, and the **#1 EMPLOYER IN THE PHILIPPINES**, as cited by the Far Eastern Economic Review, The Asian Wall Street Journal, and Hewitt Associates. Ranked **3rd among ASIA'S MOST ADMIRED COMPANIES** in 2000, we were also cited as **No. 1 in "OVERALL LEADERSHIP"** among the top 10 Philippine companies doing business in Asia.*

*Recognized by the World Economic Forum as the **"GLOBAL GROWTH COMPANY"**, we invite you to join the ranks of highly successful individuals of the No. 1 food chain. We need high caliber individuals to play very critical role in this growth as:*

STORE MANAGERS
Responsible for the over-all management of the store to achieve targeted goals and maintain efficiency and effectiveness of store operations. Male or female; not over 35 years old; Bachelor's degree holder, with at least 3 years managerial and/or 5 years supervisory experience in food service, manufacturing, retail business, hospitals, or other service-oriented establishments and willing to undergo hands-on-training.

MANAGEMENT TRAINEES
College graduates with at least 1-3 years supervisory experience in food service or service-oriented establishments. We also welcome fresh graduates with above-average scholastic records.

STORE MARKETING OFFICERS (also hiring for Baguio)
The SMART Officer is responsible for planning and implementation of store marketing projects and activities that will: a) increase store sales and b) make service to our customers more personalized. For the position, we need a college graduate, preferably in Mass Communication, Marketing, Management, or any related discipline. He/She should be creative and outgoing, and should possess good human relations and oral and written communication skills.

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANTS (AA – Store Based)
The Administrative Assistant is responsible for the proper handling of the store's funds which include but not limited to the following: Master and Drawer Change Fund, Petty Cash Fund, Cash Sales, Check Disbursement, Computation of manhours and others. For the position, we need graduates of business courses preferably Accounting or Management; not over 25 years old; with at least 6 months work experience in the same field.

Applicants must be willing to work on shifting schedules. Successful candidates will undergo a comprehensive training program designed to develop technical and managerial competencies. Hired applicants can look forward to an above industry compensation package, a rewarding career and growth opportunities.

Qualified candidates may send their updated resumé, photocopy of Official Transcript of Records and recent ID photo to:
JOLLIBEE FOODS CORPORATION
Human Resources Division – North Luzon
9th flr. - Jollibee Plaza
#10 Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City

IMPORTANT: APPLICANTS FOR ILOCOS ONLY, PLEASE APPLY PERSONALLY ON MAY 5-10, 2003 FROM 8-5PM AT 9TH FLR OF JOLLIBEE PLAZA.

FOR IMMEDIATE EMPLOYMENT

15 TELECOMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT INSTALLERS
- At least 2nd year college
- Fluent in English
- Preferably with 1 year experience
- Willing to be assigned in provincial areas

5 TECHNICAL SALES REPRESENTATIVE
- Electronics and Communication Engineer Graduate
- Preferably Graduates of St. Louis University, MIT, PLM or PUP
- Preferably with 1 to 2 years of sales experience

Preference shall also be given to residents of Quezon City, Mandaluyong, San Juan, Pasig City and other areas accessible to our office located near Shaw Boulevard, Pasig City.

Please submit a WRITTEN APPLICATION LETTER, your typewritten or computer generated resumé and your recent photograph to:

P.O. Box 202 • Greenhills • Metro Manila
Fax No.: 633-4633
E-mail: joelcm@info.com.ph

A premier marketing research organization in the Philippines in terms of credibility with clients, professionalism of people and quality of service, has an immediate opening of:

HR ASSISTANT

The successful candidate shall be tasked to provide HR support functions which include recruitment, employment, benefits administration, training and development and employee relations. This position is open to those equipped with the following qualifications:

* Graduates of Psychology, Human Resources, Behavioral Sciences, preferably not more than
* With 3 years minimum experience in HR management and administration
* Proficient in oral and written English communication
* Computer literate

Competencies:

* Pursuit of excellence for quality and continuous learning
* Purposeful and managed sense of urgency
* Thought leadership and forward-looking perspective
* Knowledge and understanding of client business environment and culture

THIS IS AN URGENT REQUIREMENT!
Please submit your comprehensive resumés with recent photos and transcript of records at
Kalayaan Center, #65 V. Luna Road cor. Kalayaan Avenue, Quezon City
or contact **925-3745 loc. 158**
ONLY SHORTLISTED CANDIDATES WILL BE NOTIFIED

Teleservices Holdings Corporation

30th Floor IBM Plaza Bldg, Eastwood,
Libis, Quezon City 1110, Philippines

TELEPHONE SALES REPRESENTATIVES

Job Summary:

The Telephone Sales Representative makes and/or receives telephone calls on behalf of our clients. They perform according to established quality assurance standards and within guidelines set forth by Teleservices Holdings Corporation as well as the client. The Telephone Sales Representative is expected to meet and/or exceed predetermined sales goals, attend and actively participate in training, retraining and up-training programs.

Qualifications:

- University graduate with a 4-year degree course preferred, but not required
- Must have excellent English communication skills, both oral and written
- Exceptional interpersonal and marketing skills

EDUCATOR

Qualifications:

- Experience in designing and developing training materials for a customer service/sales environment
- Ability to work shift schedules to accommodate changing training needs of the company
- Must possess strong leadership skills
- All candidates must have excellent English communication skills to be able to come up with effective oral and written presentations

We offer a very competitive salary package commensurate to qualifications.

Interested applicants must apply in person and bring with them their resume with 2x2 picture to the Human Resources Department, or please e-mail them to: teleservicesholdings@yahoo.com

---

EL NIDO
RESORTS

A world class tourist destination located in Northern Palawan need applicants for immediate employment:

- **GUEST ACTIVITY COORDINATOR**
  23-27 years old; female; with 1-2 years work experience in the hospitality industry; pleasant; preferably Tourism or HRM graduate; willing to be assigned in Palawan
- **HUMAN RESOURCE ASSISTANT**
  25-30 years old; female; with 2-3 years work experience in various HR functions; pleasant and organized; Psychology graduate; willing to be assigned in Palawan
- **SALES ASST. / SALES ACCT. MGR.**
  25-30 years old; female; with 2-3 years work experience in sales account development and management; pleasant and flexible; graduate of any course
- **ASSISTANT MANAGER, PUBLIC RELATIONS**
  25-30 years old; with 3-5 years work experience in corporate advertising, promotions and communications; pleasant and organized; Advertising (or any related studies) graduate.
- **MANAGER, RESORT**
  30-35 years old; with 5-7 years work experience in resort or hotel management; flexible, pleasant and organized; college graduate; willing to be assigned in Palawan

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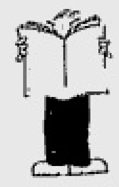

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Women can succeed at work through personality development

By Girlie I. Basilio

AS A WOMAN, have you wondered what you can really achieve in life? Are you missing out on good opportunities simply because you lack the right tools or are down on your luck? Have you felt that life is passing you by and fortune always seems to smile on someone else?

If your answer is yes to these questions, it is time to assess what you can do to change your life's directions. One way is through developing your personality. Through personality development, you can gain self-confidence and muster enough resolve to turn your life around.

In an interview with People at Work, Dina Loomis, personality development guru and president of South East Asia Speakers and Trainers Bureau, shares her insights on how personality development can help women succeed at work.

PaW: You are a much-sought after speaker on personality development. How did you get started in this field?

Loomis: First, I was invited to conduct a one-hour educational talk in Sydney, Australia in May 1988 for the Toastmasters International Overseas Convention. I was then district governor of Toastmasters International in the Philippines. It just happened at that time I was reading about personality development and so I picked that topic for the talk. I found it to be a very exciting field. I started reading more books about it and eventually, I was able to make a training program and a book entitled "How to develop a winning personality."

PaW: How can a woman be beautiful inside and out?

Loomis: Most people just look at outer beauty but in reality, one cannot be beautiful without inner beauty. Let's take a look at outer beauty first. A woman who really wants to look good has to take excellent care of her skin, have a diet and of course, exercise.

PaW: At work, is beauty in a woman a handicap or an asset?

Loomis: If a woman is too pretty, people think that she's there because of her good looks. But it can also be an asset if the woman's job takes her to center stage and she is required to represent the company in functions, conventions or sell and market their company's products. Beauty certainly becomes a winning edge.

PaW: When a woman is applying for a job, is beauty a consideration?

Loomis: On first impression, appearance counts for 55 percent, behavior and the way a person carries herself, 38 percent and words only 7 percent. But as you get to know the person, you become aware of her other assets and attributes.

PaW: How can a woman improve her visibility at work?

Loomis: A woman needs to develop a purpose for living. She needs to have a zest for life, because she knows that she has achievements in her chosen field. Then, she becomes beautiful, because she exudes an aura of self-assurance and fulfillment. This is longer lasting. This is inner beauty. A working woman also needs to develop her own style. She cannot blindly copy whatever current fashion dictates. She needs to know what kind of figure she has, her ambitions in life, and what kind of clothing and color is flattering to her. In short, she must remember, before buying any clothing, if she looks good in it, she can buy it. If not, just look.

PaW: Some women are what you would call "Plain Jane." What three things should they do to change their appearance?

LOOMIS

PHOTO BY JOHNNY VILLENA

Loomis: First, she has to take good care of her facial skin. If she has skin that is smooth and glows with vibrancy, she will look more attractive than women with good features but who have skin blemishes. A strict adherence to proper cleansing and skin nourishment are essential for maintenance of healthy looking skin. She also cannot expose her skin to too much sunlight. Using moisturizers and sunscreen lotion will do the trick.

Second, a working woman without any makeup on will look like a walking ghost. Certainly, putting on a little color will make a big difference. Application of the right foundation, eye shadow, blusher and lipstick will make any plain Jane start looking like an attractive professional. The matte look is out and the shimmer is in. This gives women the fresh dewy look. Third, wearing accessories that complement their style will complete the picture. An example would be for a working woman wearing a solid navy blue suit. She has two choices: she can complement her outfit with pearl earrings and necklace, or she can wear an attractive colored scarf with matching earrings. She simply must remember that she cannot wear too many accessories. The rule is "less is best."

PaW: What's your last advice for a working woman to develop her personality?

Loomis: She needs to develop a love for reading. When a woman can carry on a lively conversation on practically any topic, she becomes a very interesting individual. People will begin looking at her with respect. She will be treated with dignity. Membership in a local Toastmasters club can change her life. She gains a lot of self-confidence and can hold her own in any situation.

PaW: How can people get in touch with you in case they want some advice?

Loomis: Please check our website at ***www.prospeakers. biz*** or email me at ***seaweb @surfshop.net.ph***. You may also call us at 883-1681/2676/3085.

Confused...

(From page M-12)

your existing relationships. You may find it at an early age or later in life. There is also a chance that you may never find it at all.

As you go through school or your first jobs and get exposed to various types of work, you get to have a feel for things you like to do and things you definitely don't like to do. This gut feel will lead you to those areas that can spark your excitement at work. Therefore, follow your gut feel.

Discovery time

However, there may be times when, after trying out a lot of different jobs, you don't find even one thing that can fire your enthusiasm, like our confused employee. In this case, you just have to continue searching for the kind of work that will make you come alive. On the other hand, try to see if perhaps the reason you don't get interested enough in any one thing is you don't devote enough time to a particular type of work. If you hop from one job to another, you may not be able to uncover the joys of a particular job that come out of an in-depth knowledge of the work. Sometimes, jobs grow on you and one day, you'll discover a certain satisfaction in your work.

It is a good sign that young people nowadays are looking for a handle on their careers and lives. The reader at age 24 still has a lot of time to ponder on his destiny. It is always best to analyze your career interests early than get paralyzed later on in a dead end job.

(Email feedback to rreyes@ inquirer.com.ph. *For advice on job hunting and career tips, tune in to "People at Work sa DZRH" every Wednesday at 666 AM on your radio dial with the author, Reggie Reyes, former DOLE secretary Atty. Benny Laguesma and veteran broadcasters Ruth Abao Espinosa and Andy Verde.)*

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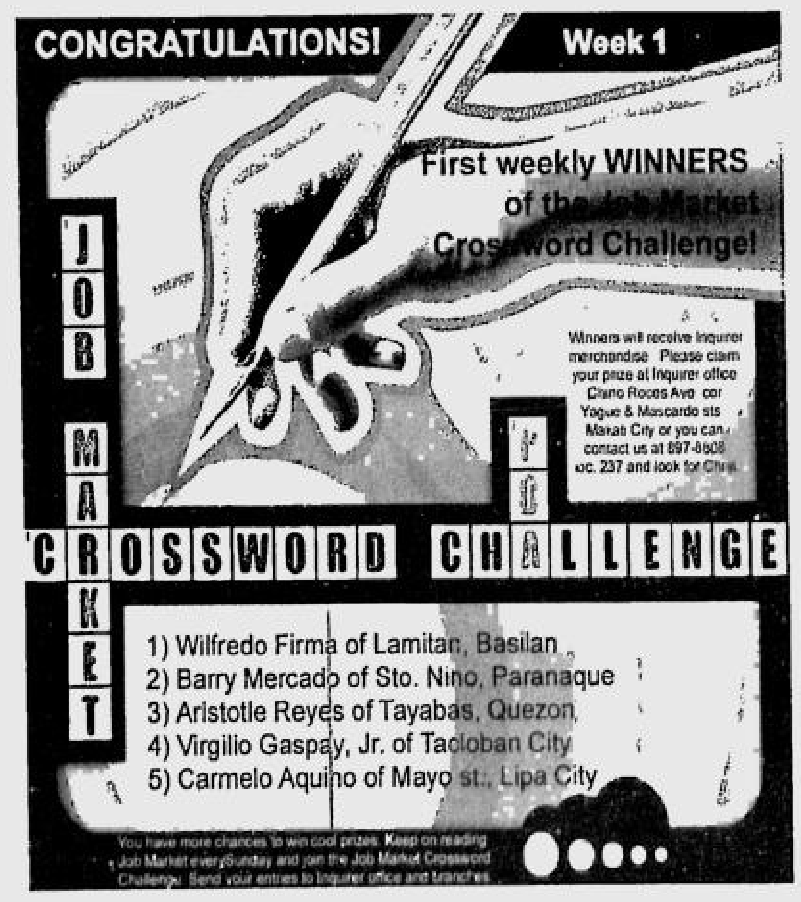

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1) Wilfredo Firma of Lamitan, Basilan
2) Barry Mercado of Sto. Nino, Paranaque
3) Aristotle Reyes of Tayabas, Quezon
4) Virgilio Gaspay, Jr. of Tacloban City
5) Carmelo Aquino of Mayo st., Lipa City

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Get more chances to win online! Simply visit www.jobmarketonline.com where the puzzle is posted from Monday to Thursday. Just print, fill up and send as many entries as you wish!

PROMO MECHANICS:

1. The promotion is open to all Inquirer Job Market readers nationwide as well as visitors of jobmarketonline. com.
2. For 12 consecutive Sundays (from April 20 to June 29) every Job Market issue will have a crossword puzzle cum entry form published on the section's 2nd page asking questions about the job placment ads and the edirorial content of the Job Market. Each week will feature a different set of questions and puzzle.
3. Readers are tasked to complete the puzzle using the job placement ads and articles that came out in the same issue as clues, and write their name, address, telephone number and signature on the space provided for in the entry form
4. The same puzzle, questions and entry form can also be found in the jobmarketonline website from Monday to Thursday of the following week
5. To join through jobmarketonline, visitors must print out the puzzle/entry form found on the website and fill it up manually. Only printed versions of the said puzzle/entry form are valid. No photocopies allowed.
6. Puzzle/entry forms (newspaper cut-outs for print entries and computer print outs for website entries) must then be placed inside a white legal size envelope and mailed to "The Job Market Crossword Challenge" c/o Job Market, Philippine Daily Inquirer Chino Roces Avenue cor Yague and Mascardo sts , 1230 Makati City. Each complete puzzle/entry form serves as a single official entry during which the winners (5) will be drawn every week to receive the following
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8. There would be a total of twelve (12) weekly draws divided into two (2) phases, each comprise of four (4), the other seven (7) and one (1) grand draw. Raffle draw details are as follows

DATE INCLUSIVE	SUBMISSION DEADLINE	GRAND DRAW	VENUE
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May 18 to June 29	July 4	July 6	PDI Office

9. An individual may send more than one (1) entry (for both print and online entries) but may only win once in every weekly draw. Non-winning entries for each particular draw will be disqualified in the succeeding draw. All weekly draws will be held at the Philippine Daily Inquirer office at 3.00 pm in the presence of a DTI rep.
10. Only the thirty (30) weekly draw winners will qualify for each of the 2 grand draws wherein one winner will receive the prize.
11. Raffle prizes are non-transferable and not convertible to cash.
12. Winners will be notified via registered mail and telephone. Name of the weekly winners will be published in the Job Market and posted in jobmarket online every week.
13. Winners can clain their prizes at the PDI office upon presentation of the notification letter and valid ID (driver's license, TIN,SSS or Passport.)
14. Raffle prizes not claimed within 60 days from receipt of notification will be forfeited in favor of PDI with prior approval from DTI
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- Review and summarize incoming reports and papers, assist in commenting on and editing them, identify key issues that need further refinement, and liaise with the international and domestic consultants on them;
- Develop a schedule and methodology for disseminating the TA results, including the interregional dissemination workshop;
- Establish and maintain a reporting and filing system for activities under the TA and prepare reports and papers for presentation at the interregional workshop;
- Carry out all organizational arrangements for disseminating the TA results through interregional networks and the interregional workshop;
- Prepare and manage the relevant TA budgets;
- Support the exchange of experience and coordination with other development agencies and facilitate networking, communication, and contact among concerned government officials, international agencies, and other key stakeholders who will be invited to attend the interregional workshop;
- Prepare the layout of the publication and optimize its appeal to the target audience; and
- Edit and proofread the publication.

Selection Criteria

- A minimum of master's degree in economics, law, finance, business administration or a related field of study;
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Please send your application on or before **10 May 2003** to:

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Young exec takes on multiple HR roles

By Rochelle Leonor

HR Focus

AT 31, he is one of the youngest in Maybank Philippines, Inc. In fact, he is considered the 'baby' of the group. But this doesn't mean that he has it easy.

Arnold Francis Justiniano has been the head of the bank's human resources division since July 2001. He says the work is not without its challenges. Justiniano explains that his work is focused on three functions—personnel management, employee relations and services, and manpower and organization development. Personnel management mainly deals with recruitment, payroll processing and employee information services. Meanwhile, employee relations and services cover employee welfare and benefits. Manpower and organization development centers on training and job evaluation. "I'm in charge of different facets of HR," he says.

To fulfill these roles is challenging enough, according to Justiniano, saying that HR no longer holds the misconception of being about 'hiring and firing' only. Justiniano offers that HR is more than that. He says HR acts as the administration expert, employee champion, change agent and strategic partner. And the heart of HR is all about attracting, retaining and motivating.

Company fit

When asked what does he look for people who want to be part of Maybank, he graciously answers that he looks for those who fit the culture of the company. "Their individual vision must be aligned with our vision." Justiniano adds that to retain and motivate people, the right systems should in place. Although rewards and performance management systems are in place, it's not just about money. "At the end of the day, employees should get something from us, whether in terms of monetary, training, etc.," he says.

Maybank Philippines, Inc. is a commercial bank owned by Maybank Group, the largest bank in Malaysia. It used to be Republic Planters Bank before it was acquired by PNB Republic. Justiniano explains that the bank's culture is still evolving. "Since we are an acquired bank, we're still in the process of establishing the culture."

Justiniano readily debunks the notion that HR is a field for women. A graduate of AB Management, major in Human Resource Management from the De La Salle University-College of St. Benilde, he had many male classmates taking the same course. He adds that it all boils down the continuous evolution of the field. "Many companies have male HR practitioners." Justiniano says his brother, who is part of the HR team of United Laboratories, Inc., also inspired him.

Track record

Justiniano's climb in the corporate ladder was not an easy task. After graduating from college, he joined SGV & Co. as an HR consultant. He stayed with SGV for three years before transferring to Philippine Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (PT&T). He stayed there for five years before moving to Maybank.

He says that his previous jobs developed his skills in HR. His stint with SGV & Co. instilled in him the values of discipline and hard work. Being in a consulting firm, he had to hasten his training. The theoretical concepts he learned from school were put into good use in SG&V. From PT&T, he learned technical concepts such as taxation, revenues, etc. These, he claims, molded him to be an effective HR practitioner. "One shouldn't just concentrate on what HR is," he says. "One should also know the business and talk the language."

JUSTINIANO

PHOTO BY JOHNNY VILLENA

Justiniano feels that he has yet to see the fruits of his labor. Since he is relatively new to his post, he says he can't easily name a personal contribution to the company. "It's more of the contribution of HR, as a whole." He credits his team for being efficient, cooperative and effective. He says whatever his contribution to Maybank may be he owes it to his people. "It is not my work alone."

Overtime...

(From page M12)

Some even believed that OT is only for those who don't know how to properly manage their time at work (9 percent). Conversely, 26 percent of the respondents replied that they would go on OT to finish the tons of work that couldn't be done during regular working hours. However, one respondent comments, "Overtime work is not a matter of choice, but of the need to be of service. One can even be required to work for reasons authorized by law." A small number of employees (11 percent) admitted that OT did help them earn extra money.

If reflective of the general population, the results of this survey suggest that half of the workforce render OT only occasionally. For a third of employees however, OT appears to be a way of life. Not surprisingly, given a choice, Filipinos do not want to work beyond normal working hours. They would rather spend the extra hours with friends, family or on personal pursuits. These sentiments are valid because studies show that people should be wary about going on overtime more often than they should. Research reveals that increased OT may impair both concentration and mood of workers. These may result in errors and poor work quality. Frequent and prolonged OT work is also related to feelings of depression, fatigue and burnout.

OT limits

How can organizations avoid the risks associated with too much OT? They can start by heeding these guidelines:

- If the workload (physical, perceptual and/or mental) is at a level where people have difficulty sustaining performance over eight hours, avoid extending the workday to 10 to 12 hours.
- Prolonged and continuous overtime is not recommended. If the overtime period exceeds three months, productivity may fall even further.
- In production or service areas where volunteers are solicited for overtime work, it is usually preferable to rotate the extra work among several people.
- If continuous or long periods of overtime are required, alternative shift systems or additional employees should be explored.
- When possible, schedule OT so employees can anticipate prolonged hours and adjust accordingly.
- Develop time management skills among employees to enable them to cope with their workload.
- Harness technology to either make processes more efficient or allow more flexibility in work location and hours.
- Create a culture that will discourage excessive overtime. This may even mean implementing policies preventing work or meetings beyond work hours.

OT in itself isn't bad. It only becomes harmful when carried to the extreme. It's important to remember that our bodies and spirits have limits. The key is finding the balance between rest and work. After all, we work to live, not live to work.

(Send feedback to ateneocord@admu.edu.ph*)*

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Qualifications:
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E-mail: hdeslate@add.com.ph

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- Excellent communication skills
- With very good leadership qualities and a strong personality
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- At least 5 years experience in a Real Property firm/plant, machinery valuation, and research

PRODUCT MANAGER- I.T.

- Graduate of any 4-year course
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- Will handle the marketing of HP/Compaq, client service, desktops, notebooks, etc.

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- mainframe application systems
- web based systems programming projects

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- With very good leadership qualities & a strong personality

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- Excellent Communication skills
- Computer Literate with knowledge in Microsoft Suites
- At least 5 years experience in business development with property, facilities & project management, valuation services, research & consultancy, residential marketing, commercial offices, & asset management
- With very good leadership qualities & a strong personality

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- Excellent communication & comprehension skills
- *For Male Applicants*
  At least 5 years experience in a real property firm, handling construction management in commercial & residential buildings
- *For Female Applicants:*
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- Computer Literate (particularly in MS Office Applications)

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E-mail: avillavert@add.com.ph

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- Excellent English communication skills

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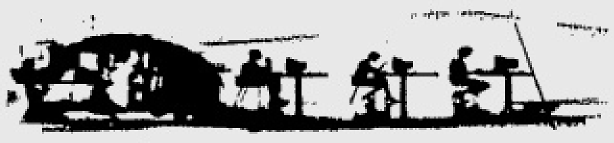

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Applicants may apply personally or send a resume, transcript of records and a 2x2 picture to
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The Administrative Service Director
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DSWD Central Office Building
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Bagong Ilog, Pasig City, MM 1600

e-mail: peoplework@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday PEOPLE at WORK

Contributing Editor Regina Galang Reyes

Overtime work is boon, burden to people at work

By Regina M. Hechanova
and Jenice Jocson-Cruz
Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development (CORD)

OVERTIME a.k.a. OT is sometimes called "*overtawad.*" For people at work, it is a fact of life, boon and burden at the same time.

According to Article 83 of the Philippine Labor Code, "The normal working hours of an employee shall not exceed eight hours a day." Article 87 of the same Code says, "Work may be performed beyond eight hours provided that the employee is paid for the overtime work, an additional compensation equivalent to his regular wage, plus at least 25 percent thereof." The law is clear on compensation that employees must receive for overtime work. However, there are no limits on overtime hours.

Due to stiffer competition, many Philippine companies resort to overtime to get the most out of their employees. On the other hand, many employees dare not complain for fear that they may lose the opportunity to earn extra compensation through legitimate overtime work, or worse, lose their jobs.

Anatomy of OT

How much overtime work do people do? Why do people do OT? Do companies encourage OT? Given a choice, would you do overtime? These were the questions we posed in last month's People at Work Pulse. A hundred and fourteen responded to our poll, majority (68 percent) of whom were female. Most respondents belonged to corporations (75 percent); 12 percent came from the government, and 13 percent from the academe, NGOs and hospitals.

PEOPLE AT WORK *Pulse*

The results of the survey show that of the total number of respondents, 50 percent go on overtime only as the need arises. Nineteen percent render overtime once or twice a week and a third (31 percent) go on overtime everyday. These results are revealing, in view of their claim that they devote most working hours doing productive work. Majority of the respondents (54 percent) reported that most of the day (six to seven hours) is really spent on working while the rest (44 percent) claimed that all eight hours are exhausted doing work-related activities.

Interestingly, OT appears to be more of a norm for private organizations. Most employees (72 percent) in the government, academe and NGOs said they render OT only when the need arises. In contrast, 55 percent of employees in private corporations render OT at least once or twice a week.

A number of respondents said that their companies encourage overtime work only when it is necessary (48 percent). A smaller number (12 percent) said that OT was discouraged to save on operational costs. In contrast, some employees said that overtime was practically a norm in their workplace (22 percent). Other respondents (21 percent) reported that you would not get promoted in their company if you were not willing to do overtime work.

AN EMPLOYEE is bound by the clock

PHOTO BY JESS YUSON

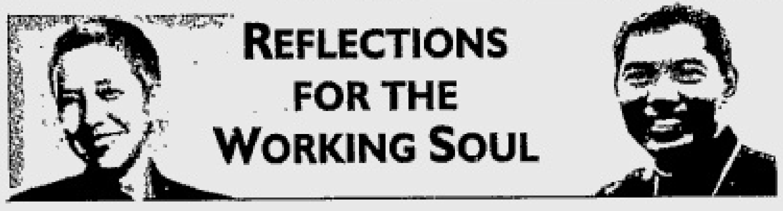
If asked to render overtime work, 46 percent of the respondents refused and would rather save the extra time for themselves or their family.

OVERTIME/M-10

What's inside

HR Focus *M10*

Women can succeed at work *M8*



REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

What would Jesus do?

By Teresa R. Tunay

IT'S but natural for us human beings to be skeptical. Like the disciples: they were already told of Jesus' rising, yet they hid in fear. Jesus had to walk through the wall as it were and to show them His wounds before they believed.

Too often, we think that to see is to believe. That's okay, that's but human. A workplace becomes a heaven or a hell, depending on whether or not people there "see" Jesus. But how may Jesus be "seen" in the workplace? Must Jesus always be the employer who "saves" and "delivers" us and our families from want? How about the ordinary employee? Can he have a chance to "save" or "deliver" anyone?

All of us "gentile or Jew, woman or man" are called to be co-saviors and co-deliverers of Jesus—by being faithful witnesses to the Risen Lord. Our coworkers need not wait for miracles and spectacles, or to poke their hands into Jesus' wounds first, if we ourselves become the living proofs of His triumph over sin and death. We can aspire to be "little Jesuses" eight hours a day to our co-workers, trying our best to be beyond reproach in even our smallest dealings—in short, to imitate Him.

It's not as scary as it sounds—we need not be flogged and crowned with thorns or be nailed to a tree in order to reflect Jesus in our places of work—He already shed all the blood that could be shed to prove the point of resurrection. But we can look to Jesus to inspire us, and especially when compelled to make decisions, to first ask ourselves: "What would Jesus do if He were in my place now?"

(Email the author at avemaria@csi.com.ph*)*

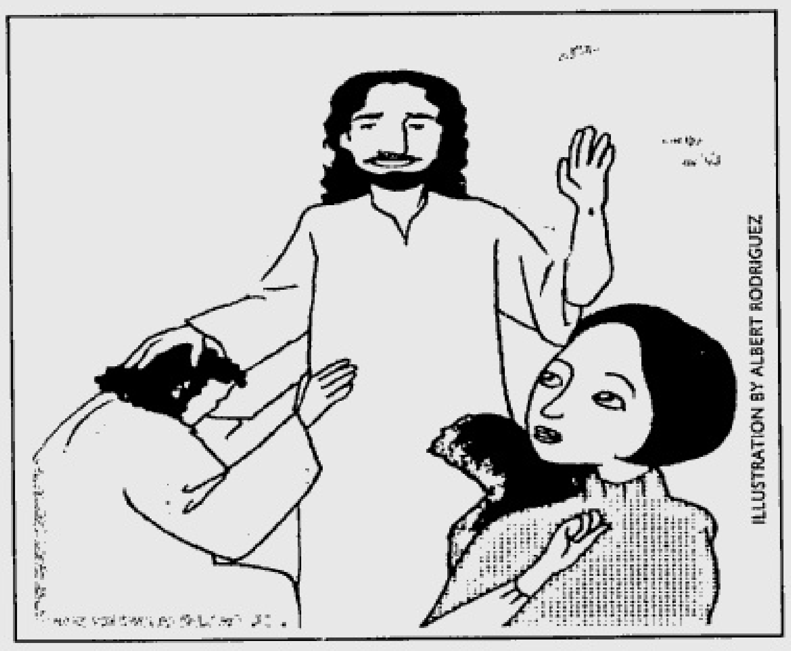


ILLUSTRATION BY ALBERT RODRIGUEZ

Gospel John 20: 19-31

On the evening of that first day of the week...Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, "Peace be with you."...He showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord.

Inspiring presence

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

AS PART of my pastoral work among the faithful of Maasin, Southern Leyte, I join them in processions, such as those during fiestas and Holy Week. Before, I had thought that my presence would be insignificant among the usually large crowd of participants, but hearing some say, 'Oh...the bishop was with us in the procession!' I realized that, after all, my presence as their spiritual leader somehow gave them extraordinary assurance that what they were doing was right.

The disciples of Jesus likewise rejoiced when they saw the risen Lord who came and stood in their midst. Jesus "showed them his hands and his side" as concrete gestures of His assuring presence. Feeling the presence of Jesus and united with one another, the disciples experienced peace and encouragement in their mission to spread His teachings to all peoples.

The employer who meets regularly with his workers and cares to show them how their business is faring makes workers feel a sense of belonging to the company and makes them own its goals. A supervisor who patiently coaches a new worker and spends extra time bonding with his team builds a committed and dedicated workforce. Noticing both smile and frown on the faces of your coworkers makes it easier for you to see them as friends or family. This makes for warmer relationships between colleagues, and when they are nurtured by the inspiring presence of each one, they become a source of happiness in our job.

(Email the author at mfvg@skyinet.net*)*

Do you have enough rest and recreation?

PEOPLE at Work and the Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development (Ateneo CORD) partner to listen to the heartbeats of working people through this People at Work Pulse.

PEOPLE AT WORK *Pulse*

Is your pulse rate a bit too fast due to stress? Is it slowing down due to asphyxiation from traffic fumes? Or is it just beating happily to the rhythm of life? Your thoughts, feelings and beliefs on various workplace issues close to your hearts, when shared, can contribute to transforming our places into more human-friendly places to work in.

This "pulse" check will be conducted once a month. The results of this poll will be published the following month. To quicken your response rates, Philippine Daily Inquirer and Ateneo CORD will be giving gift packages to two respondents to be drawn from those who replied for the month.

1) Given a choice, do you think that holidays should be moved to either Monday or Friday to provide workers a three-day weekend?
   a. No, we should stick to celebrating a holiday on the date itself
   b. Why not? It will give us time to get more rest
   c. It depends on the holiday, but generally yes

2) Would you be in favor of compressing the workweek (10 hours a day) to provide workers a three-day weekend during the summer?
   a. Yes, it would be nice to have longer weekends during the summer
   b. As long as it is optional
   c. No. A 10-hour workday is too tiring.

3) How do you feel when coming back from a vacation?
   a. Rested and recharged for work
   b. Tired from travel and not in the mood for work
   c. Worried about all the work I left behind
   d. What vacation? I work even when I'm on vacation!

4) What recreational activities does your organization sponsor?
   a. Outings
   b. Sports
   c. Retreats
   d. Others (pls. specify)

5) Are you
   a. Single
   b. Married but no kids
   c. Single with kids
   d. Married with kids

6) How old are you?
   a. 20s and below
   b. 30s
   c. 40s
   d. 50s
   e. 60s

Name:____________________
Position:____________________
Type of Company:____________________
Company Name:____________________
Tel/Mobile/Email:____________________

Mail or fax this form or email-text your answers to:

People at Work Pulse
Ateneo Center for Organization Research and Development
2F Hoffner Bldg., Social Development Complex
Ateneo de Manila University
Loyola Heights, Quezon City.
Fax No. (632) 426-6065
Email: *ateneocord@admu.edu.ph*
Cell: (0917) 911-5562 and write...*topic 1.(answer), 2. (answer), etc. name, position, company, address, contact number or email.*

(Last month's winners are Maritoni I. Platon and Erwin Carbungo. Please call 426-6065 for your gift packages.)

MARKETING BRAND 'YOU'

Confused employee wants to find passion at work

By Regina Galang Reyes

GOING back to the continuing saga of finding passion in life, here's another feedback on this topic from a reader who calls himself Confused Employee: "I have been reading your columns in the People at Work Section. I was particularly interested on your series on finding passion at work. I could say that's my dilemma for some years now. I have been jumping from one job to another since I graduated in 1998, mostly with foreign-assisted projects. I have worked with NGOs, consultancy firms and now I'm connected with a government agency. I knew I wanted to write but I just can't find the right field to go into—environmental advocacy, child's rights advocacy or indigenous peoples.

"To ease my confusion, I just took sociology for my master's degree until I can really find the field to specialize in. I would really appreciate it if you could send me a copy of the Circles of Passion. It might help me since I really want to specialize at this point in my life. I'm already 24 years old and I still can't chart my career because I'm still confused which path to go. Thanks in advance."

ILLUSTRATION BY STEPHANIE BRAVO

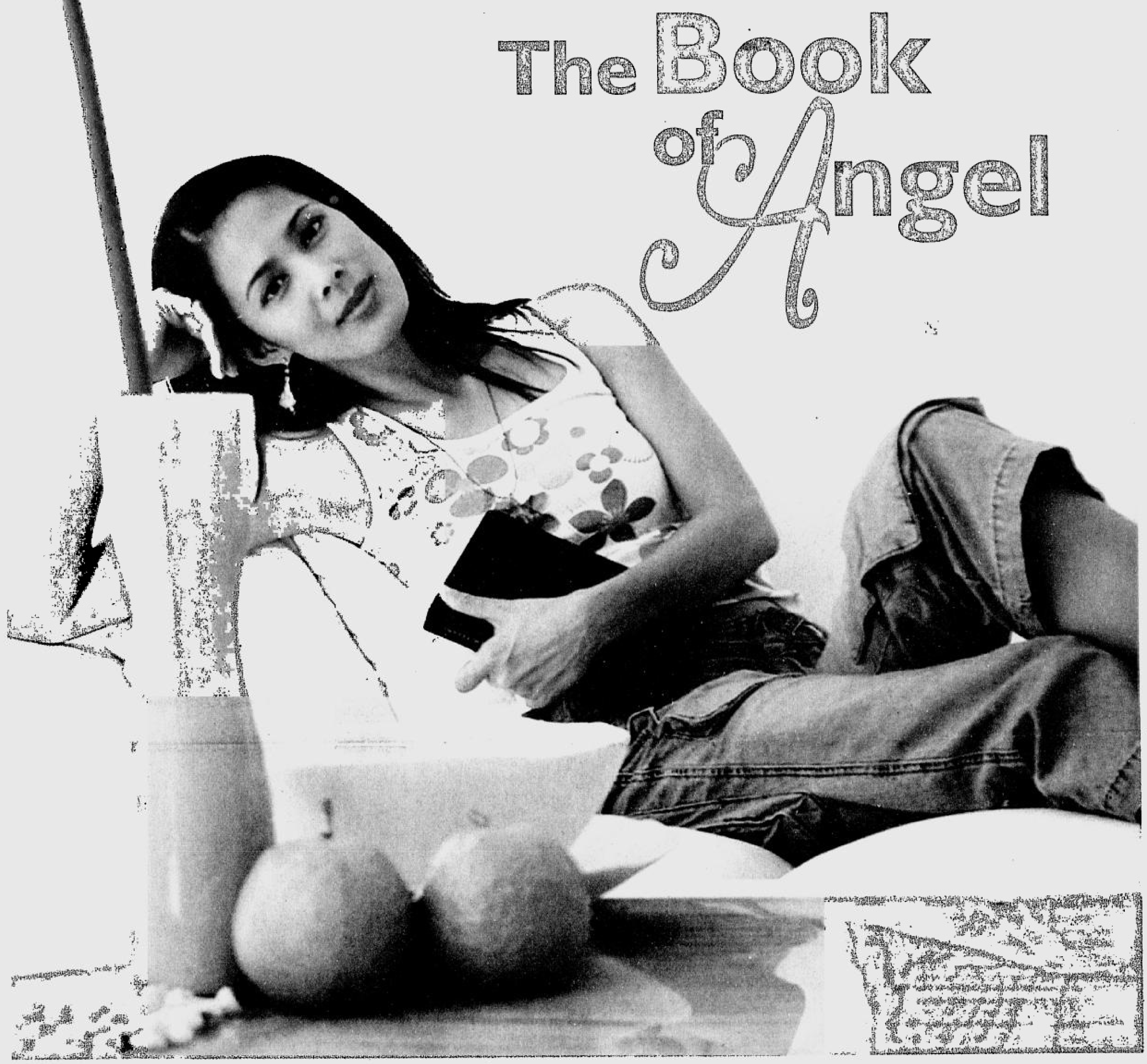
Finding "it"

Like this reader, there are many young people who have already finished their studies and are into their first jobs but still have not found "it." The "it" being referred to here is that all-consuming passion in life that makes one say, "Yes, this is what I was meant to do in life." Unfortunately, finding your passion in life is a lot like finding the love of your life. Either you recognize it immediately (love at first sight) or discover it over time in

CONFUSED/M-8

sunday INQUIRER magazine
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE
April 27, 2003

The Book of Angel



Laid-back Angel. Daniel two-seater sofa with lanna upholstery and tanguile legs, Indonesian coffee table with bamboo top, Philippine-made ceramic bowl and platter and French test tube vase, all available at Kish, Level 2, Greenbelt 3, tel. no. 757-4002

By Eric S. Caruncho
Photographs by Ernie U. Sarmiento
Photographed at Kish, Greenbelt 3

Lovely model-turned-actress Angel Aquino believes the good life lies in good books

YOU can tell that actress, model and television host Angel Aquino is a serious reader from the condition of her books. The spines are creased, the pages well-thumbed. Favorite volumes are dog-eared and bristling with bright yellow Post-It flags. Crack one open and you find passages underlined and highlighted, with little notes and even drawings on the margins. Clearly, the book and its owner have a history together.

"I interact with the books," she says. "It was just a few years ago that I started reading. At first I was scared to touch the pages. I would keep them clean, pristine. I would put little dog ears lang. And then I got more and more into the reading that I started drawing on the pages. Now I own the books that I read.

"There's one Pablo Neruda book that I have. One of the poems is about a woman's body, and how he adores it. He was describing a woman's body, and I drew beside it the way I remembered my body when I looked in the mirror."

It's good to be Angel Aquino these days. Apart from co-hosting the weekly women's magazine show "F," she has been doing a lot of modeling assignments. She is also working on a new movie with Sharon Cuneta and Hilda Koronel called "Crying Lady." Written and directed by Mark Meily for Unitel Films, the offbeat plot revolves around the lives of professional mourners played by the three leads.

"'F' is a lot of fun, but the most challenging thing for me is acting," says Aquino. "I never believed I could really act, so I'm always testing myself. I always try to see if I can deliver that role."

Perhaps the most fulfilling role for Aquino is being mother to Iana, 9 and Thea, 7. "I try to get them into reading, especially my older daughter, who likes to write. I think she got it from when she was younger, and I'd read books to her. She especially liked 'The Giving Tree' by Shel Silverstein. It really made an impact on her. There was one moment when I was feeling sad, and she gave me a note and it was in the shape of a tree. It said: 'You don't have to cut yourself for us.' It really made me cry."

Sunday Inquirer Magazine: So you were a late bloomer with books?

Angel Aquino: I never liked reading. I only read if it was an assignment or if I had to do a book review. Then I'd enjoy the book that I had to read, especially "The Little Prince" in high school. It became an instant favorite and I learned a lot from it. After that I didn't read for a long time. It was only after college that I started reading again. I met a friend who was passionate about reading,

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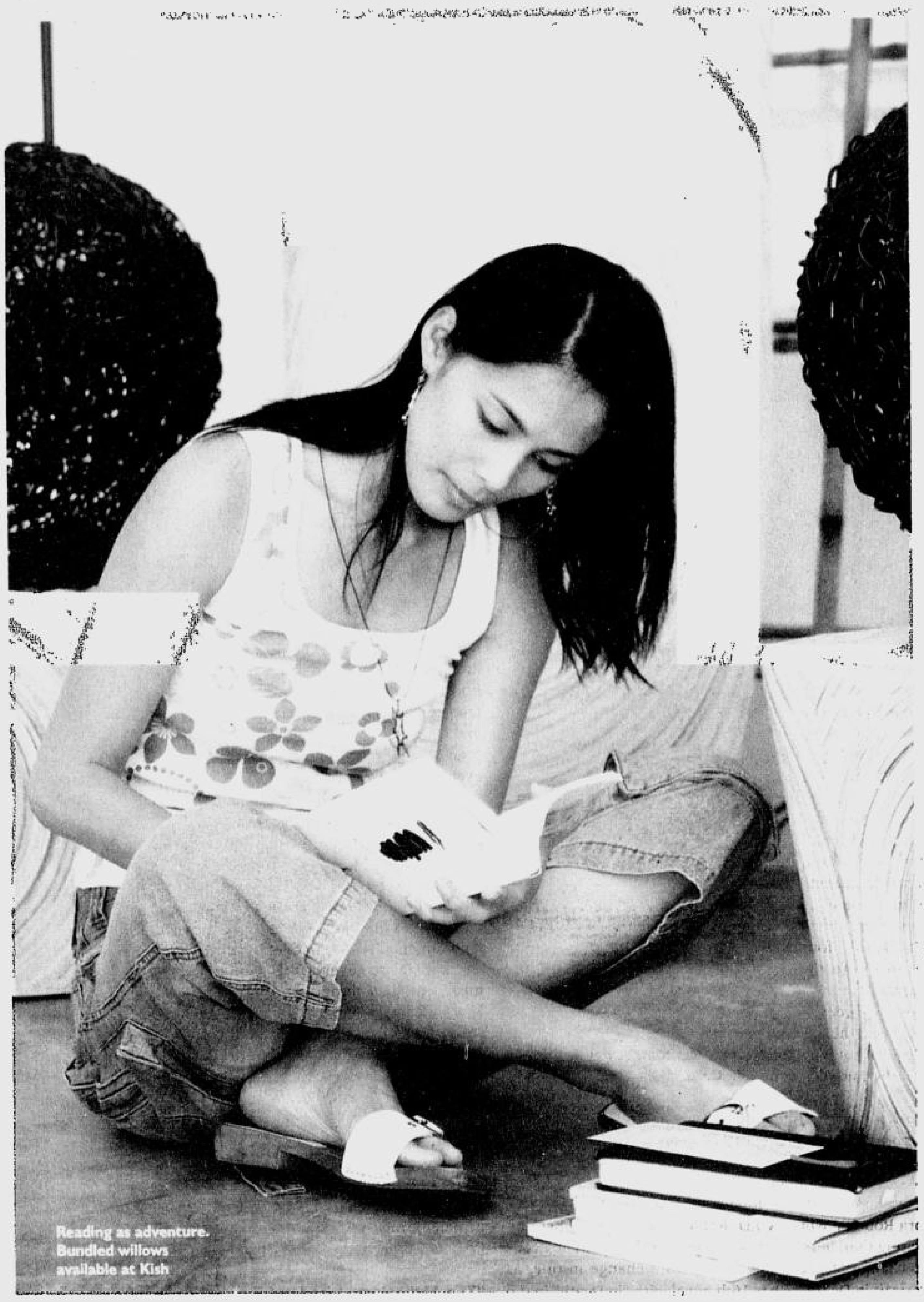
Model-turned-actress Angel Aquino tells of a late-blooming love affair with books

Read Hot Summer ***by The SIM Staff*** 3
Our annual guide to the summer's best fresh reading

Enchantments for Children
by Christine C. Rivero 6
Otherwordly magic and wonders of the daily sort abound in this summer's picks for kids



Reading as adventure.
Bundled willows
available at Kish

Angel

...from page 1

about love stories and novels. So I started with love stories and I got engrossed.

SIM: You're not really a heavy reader?

AA: I don't read a lot of books, although I have a lot of books at home, and I try to read every night. I'm not the type who has to finish a book before getting on with another. I'm the type who has piles of books, unfinished. I just go back to them when I'm in the mood for a particular kind of book or story.

SIM: Prose or poetry?

AA: I love poetry more. When things in my life are benign and nothing much is happening, I read novels. That means I have the patience for a novel. But when things are a little erratic, when I feel sad or when I feel most happy, then I read poetry. Because those feelings are transient, and you try to feed them, or help yourself get rid of them. Feed your happiness, or let yourself forget your sadness, or sometimes even dwell in your sadness. So you read sad poetry and you think, "I'm not the only one feeling this way."

SIM: So poetry is a mood-enhancing drug? It's your Prozac?

AA: *Tama*. Even when I was younger, I liked poetry more. Just a few lines and you get a whole story. I liked how they played with words. It's enticing, poetry.

SIM: So you're more into feelings than intellectual content?

AA: I'm a "heart" person, so poetry appeals to me more. This (picking up Ramon Sunico's "Bruise: A Two-Tongue Job") is my favorite poetry book. The first time I encountered this was in Quezon. I was already out of college, and I was working with a couple of students, acting for their thesis. One of them lent me this book, and I couldn't let it go. I put it in my bag, and I only told her when I got back to Manila that I had it, and that I promised to look for another copy so I could return it to her. I liked it so much that I gave it out as presents to my friends. I also like Aida Santos, Pablo Neruda, of course, and Rainer Maria Rilke.

SIM: If you were to be stranded on a desert island, and you could only take one book, what would it be?

AA: I think it would have to be "Conversations With God" by Neale Donald Walsch. It's fiction, but I really learned a lot from it. The book and my beliefs just fit together when I read it. It became my bible. Some people think it's blasphemous, but it's about the kind of God that I know of, and would like to think of as being. So if I were to be stranded, it would be this book, just to be reminded that life is good and things are happening for a purpose—that's why you're on that desert island.

SIM: Top ten?

AA: "Conversations With God." I'm a big fan of Jeanette Winterson. I love "The Passion" and "Written On The Body." "Bruise: A Two-Tongue Job" by Ramon Sunico and "Stories from the City" by Issy Orlina Reyes. I also like all of Pablo Neruda's poetry books. Rod McKuen. When I was in college, that was the kind of poetry I liked, *'yung* mushy-mushy. The "Shopaholic" series. Because I have kids, I also have a lot of children's books. I have most of Shel Silverstein's books. And of course, "The Little Prince." I read it again when somebody gave me a copy for my kids. I haven't outgrown it.

SIM: If you wanted someone to understand where you're at right now, what book would you give them?

AA: I think I would be in an adventure like "The Little Prince." I'm still searching, getting to know the different ways of different people, and trying to understand and accept.

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WINNING PHOTO This entry of Raniel Castañeda was adjudged the second best among more than 1,000 entries in the on-the-spot photo contest organized by the Federation of Philippine Photographers Foundation, Inc. in coordination with the provincial government of Cavite. *For more of This Week, see page 7*

Before the Stillness of Flowers

(after two photographs in a Davao daily, April 4, 2003)

A common enough sight perhaps
along the fine sand beach of Paradise
or on a bench in Magsaysay Park after dark,

casual in sleeveless shirt, denims, & rubber sandals,
she, holding back amazement
& the noise behind her, not ruffled by new & strong

emotion piercing her but looking longingly
down on him, her arm stretched out
to touch his hair as though to confirm

his attendance shiftless now but changed before her
full of surrender to a beckoning point beyond
pushed into focus by the white of his unsubduable eyes—

except that now he lies on the white-tiled floor
of the hospital morgue wrapped in white cloth
mottled with dried blood like the others
beside him in the row, just brought in from Sasa wharf,

except that his has just been pushed back
to show his naked chest and young face still full of arrival
at sunset into Davao skies from open seas

& far Kuwait, as though, stunned
& unsteadily walking straight into air from the brief earth
he forgot everything he wanted to tell her,

and she has just stooped down to plant a kiss
on his right cheek near his still open eye,
the hair she has tied to a girlish ponytail

running up her steeply arched back
to allow her to touch him just with her lips
& all the words taken away from her just now.

Ricardo M. de Ungria

The **Sunday Inquirer Magazine** accepts contributions for our regular poetry section. Interested contributors should send a printed copy of the poem (which may be in English or Filipino) together with a self-addressed stamped envelope to Ruel S. De Vera, poetry editor, Sunday Inquirer Magazine, Chino Roces (formerly Pasong Tamo) corner Mascardo and Yague Streets, Makati City 1263, or e-mail to <poetry_sim@inquirer.com.ph>

LoveNotes

By Joe D' Mango

A Test of Commitment

I wanted to test his love for me again. And so I asked my friend to text him, and flirt with him

Dear Joe,

Call me Fall. I am 25 and had my first boyfriend way back in 1994. Our relationship lasted for about three years. We were very happy—until Mark came into my life. He was my ex-boyfriend's friend. I began to fall for him even when I was still with my boyfriend. But when I found out that my boyfriend had another woman, I broke up with him. It was during that time of devastation that Mark came to me and helped me get on my feet again. I gave Mark a chance and it was the happiest moment of my life. I love him a lot and I know that he loved me, too.

Joe, I am a Christian. I value virginity and I also value my parents' advice to live in purity. Mark and I had a promise that we would never go beyond the proper limits. Mark respected me and my decision. I know he has his needs but most of the time we fight because of my jealousy. You see Joe, I'm very selosa.

Two weeks before our third year anniversary, he told me that we needed time to think. I asked him why and he told me that he was sick and tired of my outbursts. We agreed that our separation would only be temporary. We just had to think how we could make things work for both of us.

But one day after that I found out from his officemate that he had a relationship with a married woman. Joe, I felt my world crash around me. I didn't know what to do. I confronted him and he told me everything. He broke up with me because he suspected that the woman was pregnant. In a way, I admired my boyfriend because he knew what his responsibility was.

He came back, asking for another chance. He told me he loved me so much and that he was just tempted. I gave him another chance. We then shared wonderful days. A couple of months after, the most horrible thing happened. I broke my promise to myself and to my parents.

That was a year ago, and we are now four and half years into this relationship. I am thankful we still have each other. We are even planning to get married this year.

Joe, there was one thing that entered my mind. I wanted to test his love for me again. And so I asked my friend to text him, and flirt with him. My friend told him that she had a crush on him. My boyfriend told me that there was somebody who was texting him. He gave me the number of the girl without his knowing that we set him up. I felt happy because he told me about it. But when my friend asked him if he was committed or not, he told her he was not. He gave her his number at home and he asked my friend to call him so that they could talk more and know each other well. I was very surprised when I read his messages. I told my boyfriend the truth about the test. He then told me that the girl was just trying to ruin our relationship. But Joe, I know that he was lying again.

Joe, I finally decided to give him a break-up letter. I told him that I was very hurt when he betrayed and denied me. I don't know if he truly loves me. Joe, I don't know if I did the right thing. Now, I want to find happiness on my own.

Yours truly,
Fali

To page 7

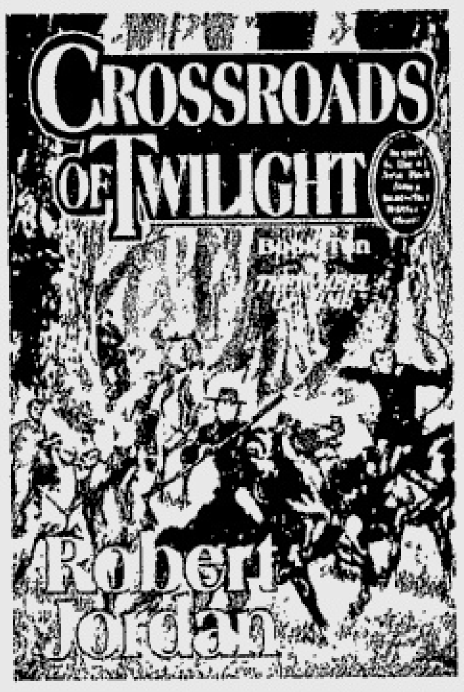
By SIM Staff

Read Hot Summer

Turn any hidden corner into your summer sanctuary, whether hardcover heaven or paperback paradise, with the newest, hottest books around. SIM presents its annual Summer Reading Issue, showing off just the right parts of anyone's reading list, just in time to take advantage of the long days and the seemingly endless supply of daylight. In the following pages, we welcome the return of some old friends, beware the presence of unfamiliar foes and delight in new genres, rediscovering the passion of a summer night's passion for reading from shores temperate and tropical. From fiction to fandom, from pets to threats, here is our guide to the summer's best fresh reading. Dive in.

FOREIGN PUBLICATIONS

Fiction:



"Crossroads of Twilight"
By Robert Jordan
Tor Fantasy

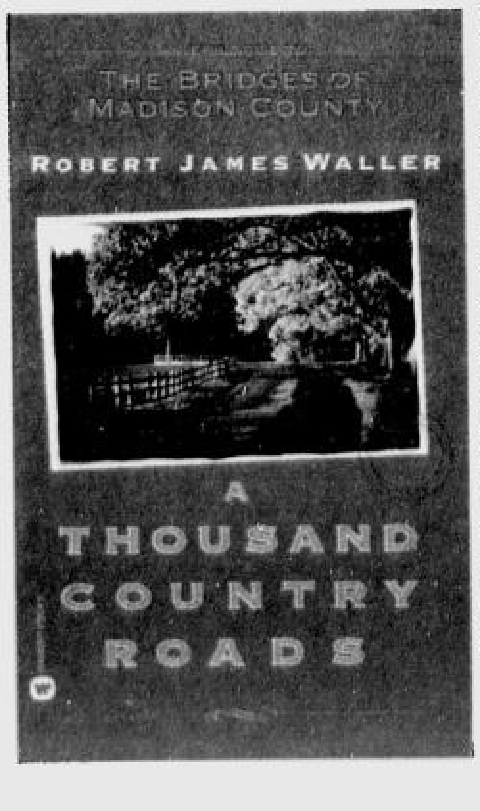
The Wheel of Time continues to turn. This massive tome is the 10th volume in Jordan's wildly successful fantasy series. And it's easy to see why. With its sweeping scope and full-page action, "Crossroads" seems like a fantasy movie on steroids—or whatever they take over there. Egwene, Perrin, Mat, Elayne and Rand all return in this rousing sword-and-sorcery epic, worth your time even if you haven't caught any of the previous books. After all, don't you want to know if they will all succeed against the encroaching power of the Dark One? Fair warning: If you read this book, you might have to pick up the next one. And the one after that. **Ruel S. De Vera**

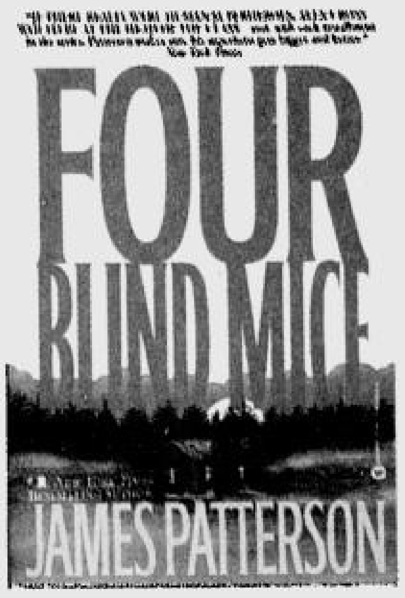
"Stone Kiss"
By Faye Kellerman
Warner Books

New York never looked quite as vile as it does here in Faye Kellerman's "Stone Kiss." A veteran of the crime novel, Kellerman keeps the reader hooked despite the rather distasteful surroundings as Lt. Peter Decker is called in to help find the truth behind the murder of a relative. It is an uneasy homecoming for Decker and our protagonist will soon discover there really is more to the murder than it first seems. What he finds out will threaten much more than his life or that of his loved ones. A breezy if disturbing read, "Stone Kiss" will keep you up though it won't change your life. **RSDV**

"The Janson Directive"
By Robert Ludlum
St. Martin's Press

One of the last books written by the late spymaster Robert Ludlum, "The Janson Directive," now available in paperback, is vintage Ludlum. What begins as the kidnapping of a moneyed philanthrophist turns ugly and soon extreme measures are needed. Then things get really bad. Slick covert operative Paul Janson gets compromised in a conspiracy within the classified underbelly of America's spy network. Pursued by a determined and very capable agent named Jessica, Janson unleashes his own plot to uncover his enemies and survive. Janson, of course, is prototypical as far as Ludlum heroes go. Like Bourne, he's practically indestructible. Or is he? A well-crafted and diverting novel of smart guys with big guns, "The Janson Directive" shows us exactly why Ludlum is very much missed by loyal readers. **RSDV**





"Four Blind Mice"
By James Patterson
Warner Books

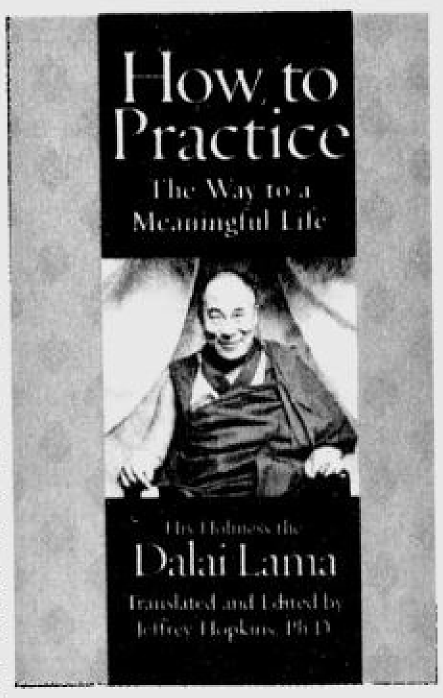
Right off, you know whodunit, three Vietnam veterans who murder without scruples and ruthlessly frame innocent folk for the crime. It will take every ounce of self-control for you not to flip to the last chapter to see how these "three blind mice" get their comeuppance, but when the revelations come…well, you smell a rat. **Pennie Azarcon-Dela Cruz**

"Portrait in Death"
By Nora Roberts, writing as J.D. Robb
Berkley Books

As to why successful authors use pen names to differentiate their work, we don't have a clue. Truth is, it seems Nora Roberts' work as J.D. Robb seems much edgier and exciting than her own steamy romances. Maybe she needs the change of pace. She also needs a change in title, as "Portrait in Death" is her 16th novel with "in Death" in the title. Quibbling aside, this is a meat-and-potatoes detective novel, with Lt. Eve Dallas, fetching and smart as ever, on the trail of a perfectionist serial killer (aren't they all?). Competent and mildly diverting though not overly creative, "Portrait in Death" should be welcomed by Roberts fans and fans of the potboiler genre alike. **RSDV**

"A Thousand Country Roads"
By Robert James Waller
Warner Books

The book that this fluffy read follows, the phenomenally successful "The Bridges of Madison County," was an awful work saved by a romantic premise of a story and a much better movie, thanks to the actors drafted to play photographer Robert Kincaid (Clint Eastwood) and housewife Francesca Johnson (Meryl Streep). Waller's prose remains masturbatory in this sequel that recounts what happened after the affair, how Kincaid and Johnson kept longing for that "one dancing moment when the old traveler saw the fires of home, when the trains came to rest and their whistles turned silent." (Eeeww.) Kincaid goes on his last adventure, and discovers that he impregnated a pretty young cellist some time before Francesca. Now Kincaid's son Carlisle is looking for his father. Waller opens by explaining why he just *had* to give in to the "hundreds and letters, maybe thousands" asking for a sequel, and ends with "a moment from my life, my wanderings," where he actually writes *himself* into a poem with kindred spirit Kincaid. Eeeww again. I'd wait for the movie. **Alya B. Honasan**



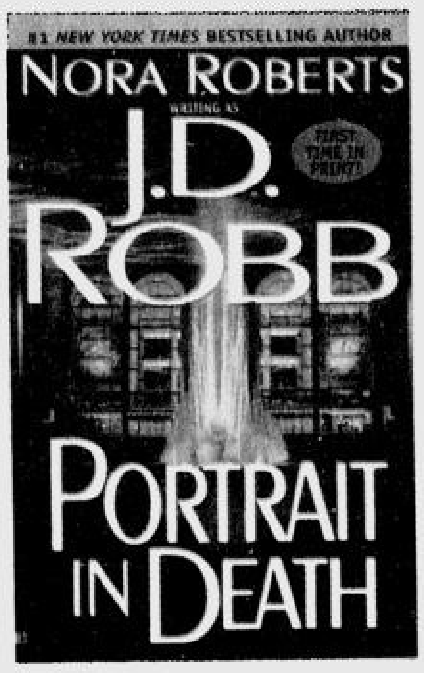
Non-Fiction:

"How to Practice: The Way to A Meaningful Life"
By His Holiness the Dalai Lama
Translated and edited by Jeffrey Hopkins, Ph.D
Pocket Books

The Dalai Lama quotes the Buddha himself on how to handle this book: "Like gold, upon being scorched, cut and rubbed/My word is to be adopted by monastics and scholars/Upon analyzing it well…" Unless you're familiar with Eastern spirituality, this book of quiet profundities is not going to be an easy read, definitely not one to stuff in your bag for a lighthearted jaunt to the beach. (Try chewing on lines like "Sufferings are to be recognized, but there is nothing to be recognized" over a barbecue.) It's best taken little by little, allowing some quiet time for the thoughts to find meaning in your own life. To his credit, the Dalai Lama grounds his text by citing examples from his own life and study experience, and by using everyday examples for practice, like meditating on a watch you see, want and eventually purchase. Like many things Buddhist, there's little fire and brimstone here, but tenets like "Never cheat anyone and always remain honest" are as universally ideal as they come. **ABH**

"Philippines Festive Isles"
Lily Rose R. Tope, Detch P. Nonan-Mercado
Times Books International

Philippines 101. A comprehensive guide to everything you missed or slept through in those History and Civics class: the country's geography, history, government, economy, environment, the people and their lifestyle, religion, language, arts, leisure, festivals and food. A veritable atlas chockfull of updated facts, figures, photographs and friendly patter. An ideal reference that makes you want to host a horde of balikbayans just to show off. **PAC**



"The Philippines: Islands of Enchantment"
Text by Alfred A. Yuson, photographs by George Tapan
Periplus Editions

It's like gilding the lily: The photographs are luscious enough to fill up the senses, so who needs words? Fortunately, Yuson provides not so much text, but context: What's behind the constant chaos and cultural schizophre-

Summer Comfort with MENDREZ

Hitting the beach? Taking a stroll in the mall? Whatever activity you plan this summer, do it in style. This April, Mendrez unleashes its latest summer collection. And what mood accentuates this collection? Summer cool-down!

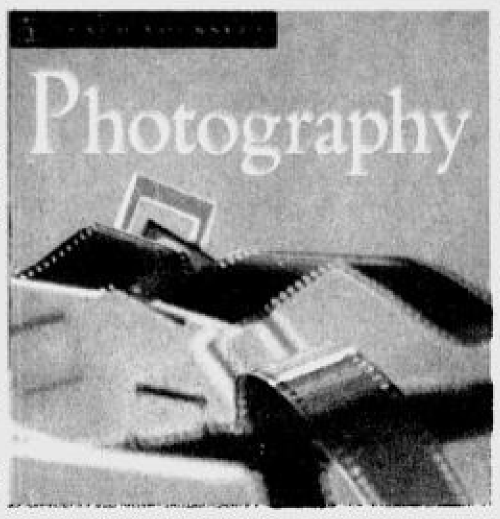
The scorching summer heat creates this uneasy feeling. The sharp rise in temperature steals the grace out of mall-hoppers, robs the joy out of partygoers, and takes the satisfaction off of vacationers. That is why Mendrez has come up with such simple but trendy footwear fit for any summer activity.

Whether you're taking an easy walk along the sandy seaside, or aimlessly wandering the crowded halls of the hippest malls, or simply enjoying the peace and coziness of your home, Mendres guarantees comfort and ease through its thongs and flat slip-ons. These stylishly sporty footwear in white, blue and fruity tones such pink, red and mint green, are definite must-haves.

Bags with floral frills and buckles as details are also part of this month's collection. Shoulder bags to match the footwear are perfect accessories to complete the summer ensemble.

So feel fashionably comfortable this summer! Go to any of the 70 Mendrez outlets nationwide.

nia? What are the two kinds of Filipinos? Where's that great leader who can someday lead the country out of its Third World status? The politicized prose provides powerful insights on the blessings and burdens of living in these otherwise enchanting isles. **PAC**

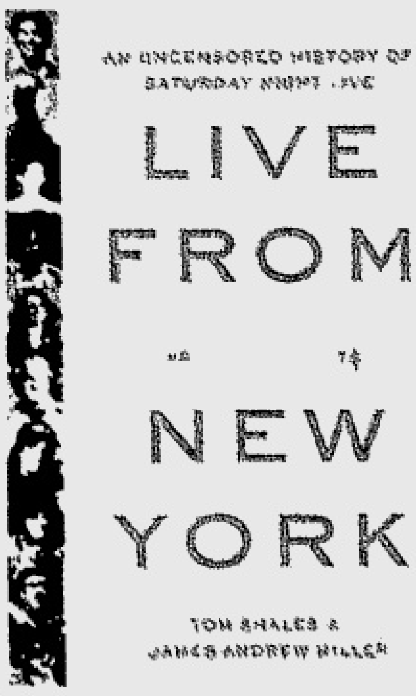


"Teach Yourself Photography"
Lee Frost
Teach Yourself Books
Contemporary Books/McGraw-Hill Company

Contains the basics: how to choose a camera; the advantages and drawbacks of auto-focus, compacts and digital cameras; troubleshooting the most common exposure problems; understanding light and weather; composition, still life and portraiture. Plus advanced techniques on night photography, special effects, capturing high-speed action, developing and printing. The tips are amply illustrated with photographs and drawings and should make even the most self-conscious beginner feel confident enough to aim and shoot. **PAC**

"Housetraining for Dummies"
By Susan McCullough
Hungry Minds

Relating as I do to the 84 percent of respondents interviewed for this book who call themselves their dog's Mommy or Daddy, this reviewer found this book extremely readable. If you'd like to "teach your dog to eliminate when you want him to and where you want him to—and to refrain from eliminating at any other time and place," this can only help. McCullough is engaging and breezy; the book is generously illustrated, and chapters (including the all-important "Making the Nutrition Connection," what and how to feed your dog) begin with cartoons. Of course, some of the recommended gear won't cut it in the Third World; I still think doggie diapers are absurd. But there are little boxes of great information, like "How long can a dog hold it?" (which comes with the warning not to test your dog's bladder strength) or "The truth about table scraps." There are helpful "links" that point you in the right direction ("Want to deal with a pooch who won't go in the rain? See Chapters 10 and 14") and a handy index. All in all, an entertaining read to help both you and the dog of your life get along better. **ABH**



"Lucky"
By Alice Sebold
Simon & Schuster, Inc.

"Lucky" is hardly the word to describe the author, who unflinchingly recalls in agonizing detail how she was raped at 18, an impressionable virgin who had dreamt of becoming an Ethel Merman-diva despite her braces, bad complexion and extra weight. Gripping and often excruciating, the memoir reads like a novel as Sebold walks us through her ordeal, takes us to its aftermath, and makes us confront life's puzzling absurdities and cruel ironies. Finding out how she survives the harrowing violence, nails her rapist and retains her buoyant spirit is one more reason to pack this book wherever you're going this summer. **PAC**

"Live From New York: The Uncensored History of Saturday Night Live As Told By Its Stars, Writers and Guests"
By Tom Shales and James Andrew Miller
Little, Brown and Company

Few viewers on this side of the Pacific saw "Saturday Night Live" during its '70s heyday, but it's safe to say that comedy as we know it now wouldn't exist without the groundbreaking show. The list of comics who cut their teeth on SNL reads like a who's who of contemporary comedy: John Belushi, Chevy Chase, Dan Aykroyd, Tom Hanks, Martin Short, Mike Myers, Chris Rock, Adam Sandler—the list goes on and on. Written as an oral biography, "Live From New York" offers a fascinating behind-the-scenes glimpse of the weekly tightrope act that became a television institution. The authors don't skimp on the sleaze—the sex, drugs and rock'n'roll that made the show what it was. But what excites most about the book is the sense of envelopes being pushed by creative minds at full throttle. **Eric S. Caruncho**

Available at National Bookstore and PowerBooks.

Philippine Publications:

Fiction:

"Ang Aking Prince Charming at Iba Pang Noveleta ng Pag-Ibig"
Joi Barrios
University of the Philippines Press

Oh to be young again and courting in these paradoxical times, when a woman is expected to be forward, forthright and laid-back about men, but still be married by 30, preferably to a Prince Charming. Oh, the challenges, the word play, the sparring and the furious courtship dance vicariously relished in this wicked and delicious collection! **PAC**

"Virgintarian at Iba Pang Akda"
By Mayette Bayuga
University of the Philippines Press

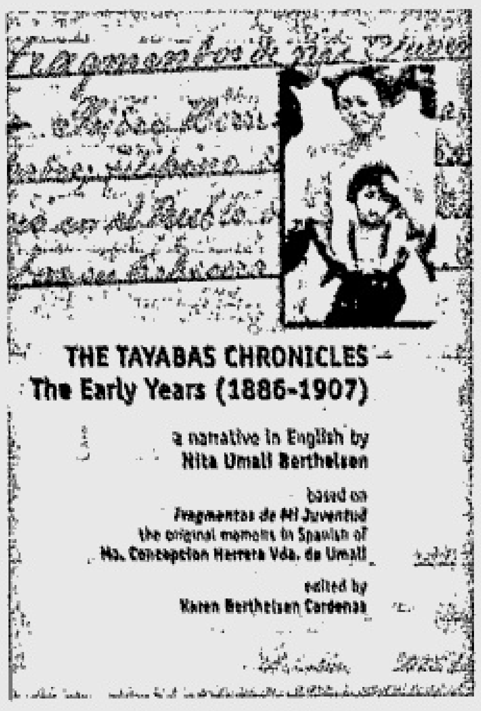
This book consists of simple narratives of women coming of age, or standing at the edge of a building about to take a leap of faith. Well-crafted and expressed in rich and provocative Filipino prose, the stories flesh out the dilemmas, contradictions and social expectations that make a woman's every decision feel like a walk through a minefield. **PAC**

"A Song for my Brother and Other Stories"
By Antonio A. Hidalgo
Milflores Publishing, Inc.

The award-winning pieces of short fiction in "A Song for my Brother" shows the different faces of Tony Hidalgo's prolific fiction. There is something for everyone in this new collection, yet it is the stories brimming with Hidalgo's inventive humor that stand out. "The Man Who Sold Dreams," "The Short Life of Ompong Bajo" and "the Telenobela life of Migs San Juan" display this quality in varied settings and tone. "A Song for my Brother" is a good chance to experience Hidalgo's wicked capacity for coming out with something different. **RSDV**

"With Hearts Aflame: A Historical Novel"
Victor M. Ordoñez
Anvil Publishing

The Philippine-American War through the eyes of a young American soldier torn between loyalty to his country and his love for a Filipina, whose family was deeply involved in the 1896 revolution against Spain and the subsequent resistance against the US's "benevolent assimilation." Without romanticizing the war or taking liberties with historical events, this novel humanizes history and makes it as current and exciting as today's telenovela. **PAC**


THE TAYABAS CHRONICLES
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a narrative in English by
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the original memoirs in Spanish of
Ma. Concepcion Herrera Vda. de Umali
edited by
Karen Berthelsen Cardenas

"Testament and Other Stories"
By Katrina Tuvera
Anvil Publishing

Dark family secrets and inevitabilities—a favorite uncle's gay liaison, a young girl's abortion, a dying parent, serial infidelities—told in taut and spare language, like it's reining in some explosive emotion. Not exactly light summer reading, but worth the effort if only to meet some characters too real for comfort whom we conscientiously avoid meeting in real life. **PAC**

"Eight Stories"
By Alfred A. Yuson
University of the Philippine Press

The prize-winning writer's stories, both old and recent, are gathered in this UP Jubilee Edition for a new audience to enjoy. Yuson's crisp humor diverts, his bold ideas challenge, his mind-bending—or just plain weird—plots delight and titillate. There's a little sex, the flavor of social commentary, particularly in the newest stories. But the strength of Yuson's fiction has always been his irresistible capacity for inducing wonder in any reader of any age and, in stories such as the excellent "The Music Child" and the engrossing "Romance and Faith on Mount Banahaw," readers will see that he is in fine form no matter what he wants to do. **RSDV**

Non-Fiction:

"Bongga Ka 'Day! Pinoy Gay Quotes to Live By"
Compiled by Ronald Baytan, Ralph Semino Galan and J. Neil Garcia
Milflores Publishing Inc.

Here's the *bading* version of those little Hallmark-style gift books to give to your favorite *vakla*. The quotes are divided into thematic sections, with irreverent titles like *"Huwag po itay!"* (on facing up to family and social disapproval) or "Born again" (on the liberation of finally accepting your *kabadingan*). The sources are writers living and dead (Rolando Tinio, Tony Perez, Danton Remoto), movies, plays, various interviews, even a dead bold star's suicide note—an inclusion that would otherwise be in bad taste, but hey, they get away with it. Besides, the note was just too grammatically disastrous not to be funny. To be sure, not all the quotes are scintillating, and some are too long for quick recall. Many are poignant and a lot are brazen *("Pare, and guwapo mo, pare. Gusto mong tsu--in kita, pare?"* writes Miguel Castro in "Lucy" from *"Ladlad"*). A few illustrations would also have worked for a book of this nature. But it's nice to have all those lines together in one fun volume. **ABH**

"The Tayabas Chronicles: The Early Years (1886-1907)"
By Nita Umali Berthelsen, edited by Karen Berthelsen Cardenas
Anvil Publishing

Translated from the memoirs of Concepcion Herrera Vda. de Umali originally written in Spanish as *"Fragmentos de Mi Juventud,"* this book offers a vibrant and detailed account of life in the Philippines just before the turn of the century, from the point of view of a young, upper-class Filipina. Doña Concepcion's youth spanned the crucial historic juncture when Spanish colonial rule gave way to revolution and eventual American rule. As governor of Tayabas, Don Manuel Quezon makes a cameo appearance. But important historical events and personages merely form the backdrop and supporting cast for day-to-day life in Tiaong and Sariaya. In the end it is the quotidian details that are most fascinating: dining on pigeon *adobo, tapa de javali* and *pinipig* with milk, riding the *carromata* to town, shopping for *pañuelos* and white canton cloth to be sewn into *camisas de china*. **ESC**

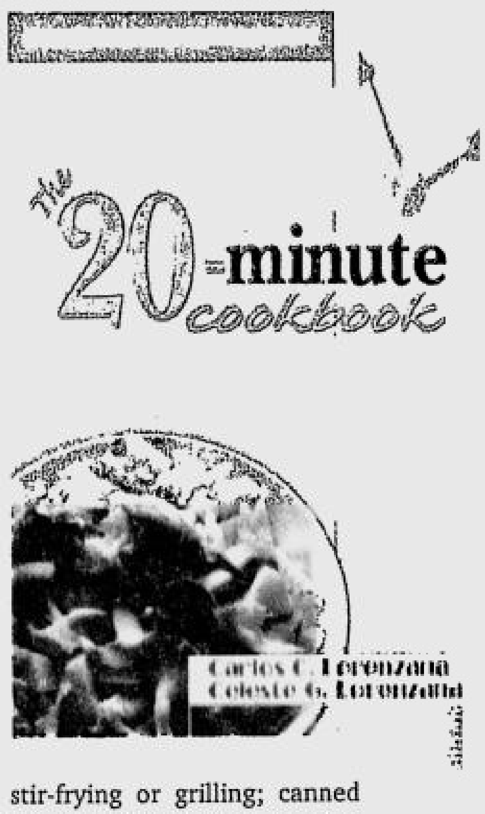
Housetraining
DUMMIES
A Reference for the Rest of Us!

"Kung Baga Sa Bigas: Mga Piling Tula"
By Jose F. Lacaba
University of the Philippines Press

"Kung Baga Sa Bigas" amounts to poet, screenwriter and journalist Jose "Pete" Lacaba's "greatest hits," gathering 60 of his best-known poems. Included are much-anthologized classics of Filipino writing such as *"Paksiw Na Ayungin"* and *"Ang Mga Kagila-gilalas na Pakikipagsapalaran Ni Juan de la Cruz,"* Martial Law-era works which have lost none of their sting. Also included are songs written for Lacaba's screenplays, such as *"Aling Pag-Ibig Pa"* (written for "Sister Stella L.") which have become standards in the protest movement. As a bonus, the anthology includes the last poem Lacaba wrote in English. Titled "Prometheus Unbound," it was published under a pseudonym soon after Martial Law was declared. When read downward, the first letters of each line spelled "Marcos Hitler *Diktador Tuta."* Lacaba never lost his militancy, although he was never as obvious again. Note that the special low-cost UP Jubilee Student Edition of *"Kung Baga Sa Bigas"* is just the right size for the average socially-aware young person's back pocket, where it rightfully belongs. **ESC**

"Txt-ing Selves: Cellphones and Philippine Modernity"
By Raul Pertierra, Eduardo F. Ugarte, Alicia Pingol, Joel Hernandez and Nikos Lexis Dacanay
De La Salle University Press

Not exactly light summer reading, but in the world's texting capital, "Txt-ing Selves" serves as an important roadmap through the ongoing geography of change that is occurring in Philippine society. This is a one-stop shop for all those researchers hunting down facts about cellphone usage and effects in the Philippines, and what a shop it is. Readers patient and curious enough to wade through the study will discover just how much life has been changed by the likes of the ubiquitous Nokia 5110. See how digital love can be prepaid and listen to the fascinating testimonials of people who, as subjects of the study, speak of their mobile existence. The authors use substantial and engaging case studies (such as the activist who uses a boycott of SMS to strike a blow for SMS rights) to show us the multifarious effects the cellphone has on everyday life all over the country. It goes well beyond Edsa 2. Think of this as a required "text-book" for Generation Text. **RSDV**



"The 20-Minute Cookbook"
By Carlos C. Lorenzana and Celeste G. Lorenzana
Anvil Publishing

Shortcut recipes to everyday meals and some fancy dishes. The secret? Lean cuts or choice meats finely ground or cut into bite-size pieces for quicker cooking; stir-frying or grilling; canned soups for sauces, frozen veggies and instant mixes. No pretense to gourmet meals, but the simple easy-to-follow recipes and cooking tips should prove extremely helpful to working moms, OFWs, students and singles living away from home. **PAC**

"Suddenly Stateside: Funny Essays on Pinoy Life in America"
By Marivi Soliven Blanco
Milflores Publishing

The American Dream can turn out to be a nightmare even for highly qualified professionals. The cultural divide can be a chasm for newcomers, even in such quotidian tasks as passing the driving test, babysitting a pet mouse, surviving winter, sitting through a Pinoy cultural night, resisting the venalities of Vegas and confronting racism. A quick entertaining read that manages to put across some disturbing insights on how Filipinos constantly struggle between becoming mainstream and keeping their ties back home. **PAC**

"A Kadre's Road to Damascus: The Ruben Torres Story"
By Nick Joaquin
Milflores Publishing

To page 6

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"Teach Yourself Photography"
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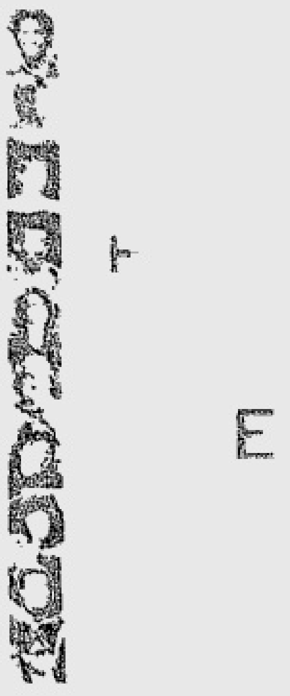

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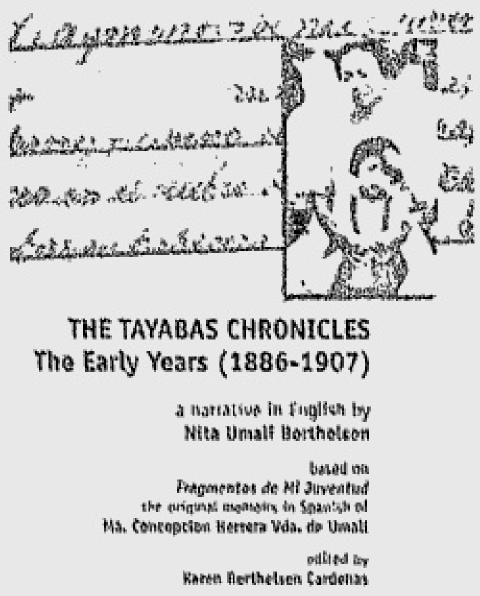

THE TAYABAS CHRONICLES
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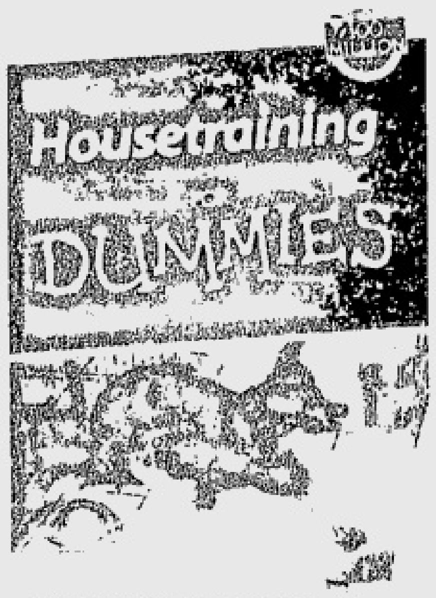

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"Txt-ing Selves: Cellphones and Philippine Modernity"
By Raul Pe[illegible]

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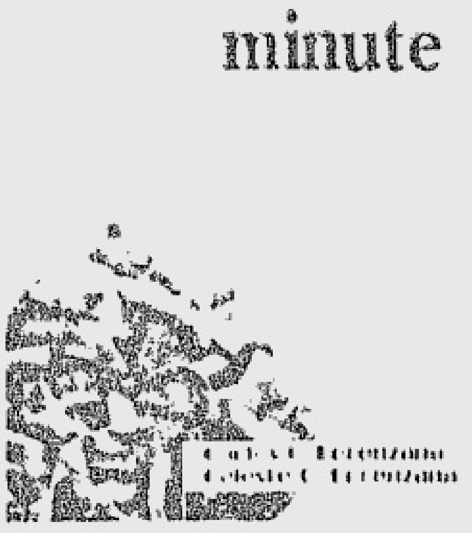
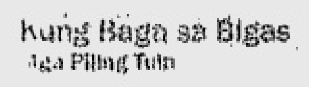


"The 20-Minute Cookbook"

[illegible] ground [illegible] pieces [illegible] soups fo[illegible] tuce [illegible] tense to [illegible] rme [illegible] and cooking [illegible] mom[illegible] OFWs [illegible] ader [illegible] **PAC**

"Suddenly Stateside: Funny Essays on Pinoy Life in America"

[illegible] Mi[illegible] [illegible] in [illegible] **PAC**



University of the Philippines Press

"A Kadre's Road to Damascus: The Ruben Torres Story"

To page 6

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

Over 9 Million lives continue to rei9n this summer

Holy Week in the Philippines was steaming hot this year especially in the eight designated hotspots where SMART gave their subscribers something to sweat about. The Philippines' leading wireless network celebrated their over 9 million subscribers milestone with their SMART Rei9ns campaign that encouraged vacationers from all over the country to sweat-it-out in a week of non-stop celebrations and promotions in Baguio. Subic. Batangas. Enchanted Kingdom, Puerto Galera. Boracay. Cebu and Davao. Those lucky enough to catch the celebrations were treated to these events in these hotspots.

The pristine white sands of Boracay were invaded by hordes of sun-seekers during Holy Week and they were treated to some uniquely engaging promotions that rewarded SMART subscribers and potential subscribers. The SMART Rei9ns booth offered a whole host of goodies for their visitors including the most affordable pre-paid phone kits and discounted SMART Buddy Nokia 3315, SMART Buddy Nokia 2100 and Talk and Text's Buddy 3388. New Buddy users were treated to free items such as Buddy tote bags, mesh bags, sunvisors, beach mats and caps. The more adventurous vacationers marked their holiday at the SMART Rei9ns booth with free Henna Tattoo on Saturday from 2-6 PM as well as free skin accessories. Those seeking respite from the sun sought shelter in SMART's special lounge for subscribers. Big Fish brought the house down with their pumping, pulsating dance event Slinky while smooth house music was entertaining the crowds in Cocomangas on the 19th of April with Studio 23's Beach House Party. All these events encapsulated the real vibe of the island: hot, sweaty, and full of energy.

SMART Rei9ns hit Subic Bay with the Jam for Peace Concert last April 19, an event with Parokya ni Edgar and River Maya as the main attractions. A good crowd packed Remy Field as many of them enjoyed FREE concert tickets if they swapped their non-SMART SIM with a SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM, while existing SMART subscribers got FREE tickets if they downloaded the SMART logo into their celfones. Meanwhile, the Amazing Phone was a hit in the Subic Yacht Club where tech-savvy celfone users were 'amazed' by the phone's numerous useful features. All-in-all Subic warmed to SMART's brand of celfone service by swapping their SIMs for SMART SIMs and taking home brand new Nokia 3315s, TNT Buddy 3388s, and Nokia 2100s.

In the cool mountains of Baguio, SMART sponsored bars Pilgrims, Cactus and Gimballs, heated-up their floors with fun-loving teens.

Sugar Beach in Bantayan was the center of celebrations for SMART Rei9ns in Cebu. SMART wooed the beach lovers as they swapped their non-SMART SIMs for SMART Buddy SIMs and were grateful for the OTA (over-the-air) reloading service. Free Celfone Charging was a big-time hit in the beach where many people in need of a charge were left without an outlet or charger.

This created a warm sense of community within the SMART subscribers as Moms, Dads, Kids, Lolos, and Lolas all proudly wore the SMART Rei9ns sticker. SMART health buffs meanwhile, drew sports enthusiasts from all over the country to their well-attended Triathlon event.

SMART subscribers looking for some thrills and spills were treated to free tickets to Enchanted Kingdom. Subscribers who used SMART Money to a buy one (1) ride-all-you-can ticket or by downloading an EK Mobile Coupon after buying one (1) ride-all-you-can ticket were able to receive FREE entrance! This offer will be good until the end of May for SMART subscribers. Amusement park-goers were also graced by the presence of SMART World Billiard Champion Django Bustamante at the SMART Rei9ns booth.

Whew, what a week! Is it over? Well, SMART subscribers can enjoy more events in these hot spots for the entire summer! So while you're enjoying even more you can check out these great promos.

A SMART 64K Super SIM purchase at just P199 will get you special discounts and prizes. Swap your SIM to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM and prepare yourself for similar delights. You get a cool premium item via pick-a-prize promo. You can also get a Nokia 2100 or Nokia 3315 at discounted prices. These prices are exclusive to your hotspot of choice. SMART Rei9ns gives something for everybody. If what you want is a Call and Text card of P300.00, you stil. get a special premium item via pick-a-prize.

Talk N' Text users looking to upgrade their SIMs to Talk N' Text Power SIM or those who want to purchase a new Talk N' Text Power SIM for only P150 get an instant prize. You can also purchase a Buddy 3388 for only P1,990. Those who just want a call and text card for a minimum load of P300 you still get a stylish prize.

SMART Gold users can swap their SIM or avail of the Gold Rush package and get an exclusive premium item. The higher the plan, the more premium the item. SMART Gold users who activate 'My Calendar' or 'Horoscope' get a premium item via pick-a-prize.

You're on a sand bar, you need to call your friend over in the island, what do you do? Use SMART's Electronic Loading service and you can even enjoy as much as a P50 Bonus Load, for a minimum airtime purchase of P300. And even with a P250. airtime purchase, you still get a bonus load of P40.

Score a stylish mesh shopping bag when you enroll in the SMART Money Loyalty Program, and pay the P200 card fee. Register with SMART Mobile Coupon service by typing: Reg First NAME, Last Name, Birthday, Gender, Interests, number of promo updates to be received per week and send this to 270. And just by signing up, you automatically get a special gift.

For those tech-savvy vacationers activate your MMS and GPRS features using your MMS-capable handset and get a chance to win a sizzling hot SMART MMS beach bag Grab the chance to get marked with a SMART Rei9ns sticker tattoo by our roving SMART crew. Wear it with pride and get caught wearing the sticker tattoo while using your SMART or Talk 'N Text celfone in our hotspots and you'll be the lucky winner of an exclusive SMART Buddy Beach Mat.

So with all of these promos are you going to miss out being a SMART subscriber? Didn't think so. So while you're sunning yourself on the beach, relaxing over a meal with family, or dancing the night away in a hip bar at night always remember: this is your summer to RULE with SMART Rei9ns.

SIM Swap your way to cool summer treats

To add more spice to the festivities as SMART hit more than 9 million subscribers through the SMART Rei9ns summer campaign, SMART is once again offering its free SIM Swap program with an added twist: SIM Swap to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM and get the superior features of the most powerful SIM to date, thanks to the combined power of SMART zed and SMART Money. Plus, avail of cool summer collectibles exclusive to SMART Rei9ns hotspots.

By SIM Swapping to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM, you enter a world of limitless possibilities at your fingertips not available from any other wireless network. For starters, you can experience the innovative convenience of cashless shopping and purchasing through SMART Money. Plus, only SMART zed gives you a plethora of services ranging from hip logo and ringtone downloads to a wealth of information like news and traffic updates—direct to your SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM.

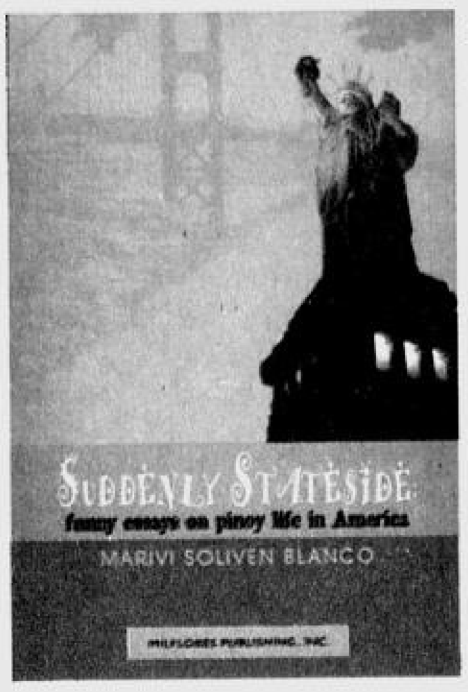
And for that added twist, there's another cool reason to switch to a SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM: since April 16 and lasting till the end of summer, hip summer items like mesh bags, tote bags, caps, visors and beach mats are being dished out for free as a summer treat to those who SIM Swap to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM. Now, that's one amazing offer you won't find anywhere else.

The SMART Rei9ns festivities have been in full swing since April 12, taking all the hotspots across the country by storm: Camp John Hay in Baguio, Boardwalk in Subic, Enchanted Kingdom, Lower Beach in Batangas, Punta Fuego, White Beach in Puerto Galera, Station 3 of Boracay, Bantayan in Cebu and The Venue in Davao are the destinations that have been blitzed by a series of concerts, games and dazzling firework displays to celebrate over 9 million happy subscribers on the SMART network. Watch out as SMART continues to rule over Manila in the coming weekends, with more cool happenings and concerts coming your way. SIM Swapping to SMART Buddy 64K Super SIM is plain sailing—just visit the SMART Rei9ns booths at any of the mentioned hotspots and you can SIM Swap right there, on the spot!

So when partying in any of the SMART Rei9ns hotspots, be warned against lazing in the sun too much or you'll miss out on this fantastic SIM Swap offer

ADVT.

Read ...from page 4


SUDDENLY STATESIDE
funny essays on pinoy life in America
MARIVI SOLIVEN BLANCO
MILFLORES PUBLISHING, INC.

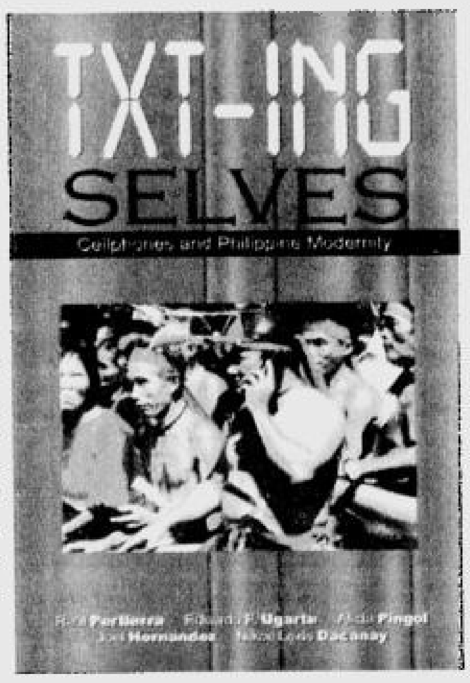
Any biography of a living politician, no matter how checkered his past, would be suspect, especially if he's still holding public office and the next election is just around the corner. But the author here is Nick Joaquin, National Artist for Literature and one of the most engaging writers of this era. That alone should make it worth reading about Zambales Rep. Ruben Torres, poor boy made good at UP, former comrade at the Partido Komunista ng Pilipinas and erstwhile Marcos technocrat, Aquino Labor Secretary and Ramos Executive Secretary. Style wins over substance in this one. **PAC**

"Living With the Enemy: A Diary of the Japanese Occupation"
By Pacita Pestaño-Jacinto
Anvil Publishing

Reveals everyday life under the Japanese invaders during the Second World War in devastating detail. Told from the point of view of a young wife and expectant mother, the diary offers perceptive insights on how patriots and politicians can turn into collaborators with the florid turn of a phrase, while ordinary men and women become heroes with their plain good sense. **PAC**

"A Worldwide Feast"
By Vicky Veloso-Barrera
Anvil Publishing

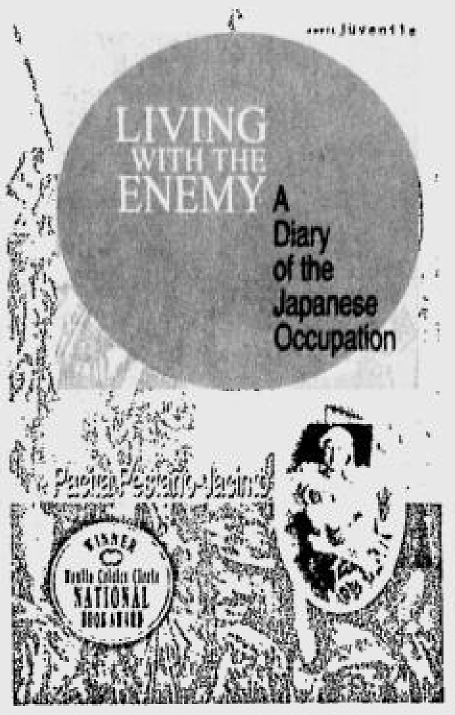
Now that SARS has clipped the wings of even the most adventurous traveler, this cookbook should prove the perfect alternative, giving you a taste of Asia, Europe, Africa, the Mediterranean and Latin America, without you leaving your kitchen. Although most ingredients can be expensive and difficult to find (though the author gives tips on where to buy them or what substitutes to use), the recipes are friendly enough for aspiring globetrotters and dilettantes to try. **PAC**



Comic Books:

"Mars Ravelo's Darna" No. 1 (of 3)
By Boboy Yonzon, Ryan Orosco and Gilbert Monsanto
Mango Comics

It is always a pleasure to see Philippine komiks' most treasured icon back in graphic glory. Mango Comics' "Mars Ravelo's Darna" updates the flying heroine just in time for the next century. Ryan Orosco and Gilbert Monsanto's art is amazing and the colors and quality make this debut title a visual feast. Unfortunately, Darna, speaking in English, seems to be rather bland and virtually undistinguishable from various versions of DC Comics' Wonder Woman. While this is the first in a three issue mini-series, readers would probably have enjoyed seeing Darna take on more interesting foes—like the tussle with snake-haired Valentina (welcome back) promised in the next ish. While this does serve as a great starting point for those who have yet to really experience the magic of Darna, surely one can do more with the single most recognizable character in local comics. Still worth a look but here's hoping that "Mars Ravelo's Darna" gets much better. **RSDV**



"Wasted: Final Edition"
By Gerry Alanguilan
Alamat/Komikero/Pulp

One of Philippine comicdom's true treasures has finally returned. This affordable new edition collects the eight issues of Alanguilan's seminal series of mini-comics, first available in 1994. Almost a decade hence, Alanguilan's cathartic epic of heartbreak, with its grim humor, hot-button issues and starkly compelling black-and-white art, vibrates with an irresistible, violent truth despite the years since its first release. The reason for the "mature readers" tag isn't just the 15 or so fatalities-it's the dark heart of the series itself, one that we just might recognize in ourselves. And that is bloody genius in itself. "Wasted: Final Edition" lets us go home, thankfully alive but changed forever. **RSDV**

From our writers:

"Nightmare Journeys: Filipina Sojourns through the World of Trafficking"
By Rina Jimenez-David
Milflores Publishing Inc.

INQUIRER columnist Rina Jimenez-David's gift is in always putting a human face to whatever issue she's taking on, a gift that keeps even the most uninvolved of readers reading. The gift works to the reader's advantage in this otherwise grim book. The stories of "Gina," "Maricar," "Patricia" and many others echo the same sad refrain of poverty, sexual abuse by people they trusted and loved, and unfulfilled dreams that sent them to unknown lands in search of work and a better life. Instead they got raped, beaten, robbed, turned away by their families and subjected to rigorous red tape by authorities. David makes some interesting observations in her foreword, including the fact that many families actually push the girls into this line of work. She also notes, however, that many of the girls never stop aspiring for a better life even after all the horror—a bright spot in this otherwise sobering read. Grab this if you want an eye-opener. These are stories that have to be told, and few could have told them better. **ABH**

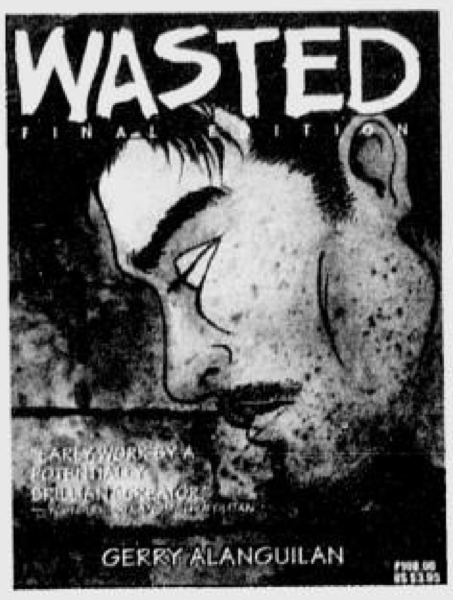
"Writing Home: 19 Writers Remember Their Hometowns"
Edited by Ruel S. De Vera
Anvil Publishing

SIM Associate Editor Ruey De Vera was right in his foreword: The Filipino is always looking to take root in a place close to the heart. This star-studded compilation is one of those works that make your chest swell with pride at the sheer talent of Filipino writers in English. The individual moments are priceless and could only have been drawn from unique experiences—John Silva's remembrance of sadness at sunset when leaving Villa Beach in Iloilo; the late Doreen Fernandez's memories of the sweet delights of Silay; Cárlos Cortés' tribute to Sri Lumay, the man who made Cebu but who is hardly remembered after Humabon and Lapu-Lapu stole the spotlight. Our hands-down favorite must be the sparkling account of how Eileen Tabios, in cahoots with relatives, gave her Yankee husband his comeuppance after his exasperating fascination with a domestic creature. All the stories and most of the poems (including song lyrics by Joey Ayala) are fitting paeans. Great stuff to ponder this summer that might just send you packing for the old province. **ABH**

MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA

"Cogito Ergo Sum and Other Musings on Science"
Edited by Queena N. Lee-Chua
Ateneo de Manila University Press

Palanca Award-winner Lee-Chua seems determined to prove that science and scientific writing do not have to be boring—and she has, by and large, succeeded. The works by distinguished writers are divided into essays, poems, journalism and fiction, each in a distinct style. Take Cirilo Bautista's poem, written as a mathematical formula, about a man falling to his death, or Fabian Dayrit's elegant essay on sex and smell, or Angelo Lacuesta's story of medical students contemplating the man behind the cadaver. We particularly liked Isagani Cruz's short story on a future Filipino president equipped with her own Personal Orgasm Machine, a gadget that may become as ubiquitous as a cellphone (heaven forbid), and Annette Tamino's quietly heartbreaking poem on a turtle hatchling killed before it even makes it to the sea. Lee-Chua laments in her opening essay that "Today, we are constantly stimulated, yet somehow life seems lackluster, soulless, dull." Fortunately, this collection is anything but. **ABH**



All titles available at leading bookstores and comic shops.

Enchantments for Children

By Christine C. Rivero

Otherworldly magic and wonders of the daily sort abound in this summer's picks for kids

Foreign Publications:

"The Warlock of Firetop Mountain"
By Steve Jackson and Ian Livingstone
Wizard Books

From the era of Choose-Your-Own-Adventure (read: the 1980s) come the Fighting Fantasy Gamebooks. In the first book of the reprinted series, a treasure seeker explores the maze-like enclave of a legendary warlock, and this treasure seeker happens to be you. As the main character, the reader is asked to make decisions and flip to a specified page to see the consequence. This is a standard feature of books in this genre, but Fighting Fantasy Gamebooks first ask you to create your character. Your character's stats are determined by dice rolls and anyone familiar with role-playing games, or RPG, will appreciate this detail. Another adaptation of the RPG system is the use of dice in combat to determine how much damage you or a monster inflicts. A non-dice option exists but what gamer worth his broadsword would prefer that? Map-making is also an essential skill in this engrossing story/game.

THE CIRCLE OPENS
Magic Steps
TAMORA PIERCE
SCHOLASTIC

"Magic Steps"
By Tamora Pierce
Scholastic

Lady Sandrilene Fa Toren is a "stitch witch." In Emelan and Winding Circle, that is a mage who works magic using thread and the tag is not derogatory. Sandry is a special kind of stitch witch, though, because she treats magic itself as a thread. It's refreshing to see a fantasy novel with an intelligent teenage girl as the lead, and although this novel is the first book of a quartet, it can be taken as a stand-alone story. A few gory scenes appear in the narrative but these only serve to show the vileness of unremitting hatred.

"So You Want to Be a Wizard"
By Diane Duane
Magic Carpet Books, Harcourt Inc.

In these post-Voldemort days, its title probably raises eyebrows. Yet this book, first published in 1983, tells an engaging story about two young New Yorkers (Hispanic-Americans, to be precise) who discover magic and much more. The narrative's long prologue can be a drawback, but it is here where the principles of wizardry are explained. A young reader who avoids the urge to skip the textbook-y parts will learn that wizards exist to conserve the Universe's energy. A "spell" is also cleverly interpreted as a description of an object and would-be writers will thrill to know that "wizards love words." Originality and top-notch storytelling make this an excellent first book for a series of five.

Available from National Bookstore and PowerBooks.

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This Week

Art

April's Full, a joint exhibit of recent works by Yveese Belen and Romeo Forbes, until May 3 at Gallery Nine, 4/L, SM Megamall A.

Floored, a series of paintings and mixed media works by Karen Ocampo Flores at Finale Art Gallery, SM Megamall Artwalk until May 4.

Lunar, a solo exhibit by Rom Villaseran until May 9 at Galerie Astra, 2/F, LRI Business Center, 210 Nicanor Garica St., Bel-Air II, Makati City.

Music

Opera aficionados and concertgoers will be in for a different kind of treat as the CCP presents its second offering for the CCP Special Concerts Series on April 29, 7:30 p.m. at the CCP Little Theater. Dubbed as ***Konsiyertong Tatlong Kusing***, it is a concert version of Berthold Brecht and Kurt Weill's runaway hit "Threepenny Opera." The concert-cum-play will be performed by Josephine Roces Chavez, Agness Barredo, Karla Gutierrez, Lionel Guico, Lynn Sherman, Michael Williams and Eugene Villaluz. For tickets, call 832-1125 loc. 1604 or 832-3704.

Onstage

Alliance Francaise de Manille will present **Cabaret!**, a collaborative work betweem French choreographers and dancers Guillaume Compain and Sandra Falcon-Agostini on May 6 and 7, 9 p.m. at the Baluarte de San Diego in Intramuros, May 9 and 10, 7:30 p.m.; May 10 and 11, 3 p.m. at the DLSU-College of Saint Benilde. Cabaret! is a dance concert inspired by the lavish production of "Moulin Rouge." Compain and Agostini will be joined by the best local dance artists from various dance companies, giving the audience a unique blend of artistry and theater. For ticket reservations, call 426-7911 or email events_creators@hotmail.com.

Atbp

Shell Canvas-Podium celebrates its first year of operations at the Podium in Ortigas Center with a month-long anniversary sale. Specializing in fabrics and furnishing for hotel and residential contracts, Shell Canvas offers discounts of up to 70 percent for US-made Hoffman and Burlington fabric collections and special promotional rates for curtain tiebacks. New fabric collections from the UK, Spain and Belgium and newly arrived sofa sets and electric beds are now available at the store located at Level 3 of The Podium Mall.

Learn **how to write experjmental fiction** through lectures, reading assignments, creativity exercises, hands-on writing assignments and constructive critical feedback. The 4-session workshop starts April 28, 7-9 p.m. at The Podium, Mandaluyong City. For details, email creativeink@edsamail.com.ph or contact 0916-5822425.

Sweet Treats is now accepting tutorial sessions for **no-bake chocolate molding** for kids and adults. For only P1,000, each person not only brings home the starter kit for 100 pcs. chocolate lollipops, but also the know-how, the fun and the business potential! For reservations, text 0916-8758704 or email aileen1dy@yahoo.com.

Learn the basics of drawing, shadowing, anatomy, techniques and secrets of using charcoal through ***Kapihan at Pintahan* 2: Charcoal Painting Workshop** to be held at Kofiholics Anonymous on May 1, 3 and 4 (9 a.m. to 4 p.m.). Registration fee is P1,400 per person (inclusive of materials, meals and snacks). For details, call (049) 8271667, 0919-3155274 (Olive), and 0917-8302254 (Jenny).

Children ages 7-11 may join Faber-Castell's **free workshop on animation and imagination.** The three-day workshop on Filipino animation, Japanese Animation and American cartoons will be held in selected SM Supermalls. Schedules are as follows: May 1-3 at SM Manila Activity Center; May 8-10 at SM Mega Atrium; May 15-17 at SM Southmall Activity Center; May 20 at SM Southmall Storyland; May 22-24 at SM Fairview Activity Center; May 27 at SM Fairview Storyland, and May 29-31 at SM Pampanga Activity Center. Registration is from 12-1 p.m. Students must bring on workshops day: school ID, 9 x 12 sketch pad, coloring materials, 20 pcs. bond paper, and a minimum of P50 worth proof of purchase of any Faber-Castell product. Workshop proper is from 1-5 p.m. For details, call 361-7391 to 92.

A **Falun Dafa workshop and photo exhibit** will be held on May 3, 1:30 p.m. at the Philippine Cooperative Center, 90 Balete Drive Extension, near E. Rodriguez Avenue, QC. Falun Dafa is an ancient Chinese cultivation practice with five gentle, easy to learn qigong exercises and meditation. There are also lessons every Sunday, 7 a.m. at QC Circle. All activities are free. For details, call 0919-4047829 or 0916-4334988.

You can still shop 'til you drop at the **Jag Jeans payday sale** at Robinsons Place-Novaliches, Robinsons Metro East and Robinsons Starmills, Pampanga on April 30 to May 2. Enjoy up to 50 percent discount on selected items. Get the hottest styles this summers—from teen fave Jag Thug and Lady Thug line to Jag Kids collection and the classic Jag styles.

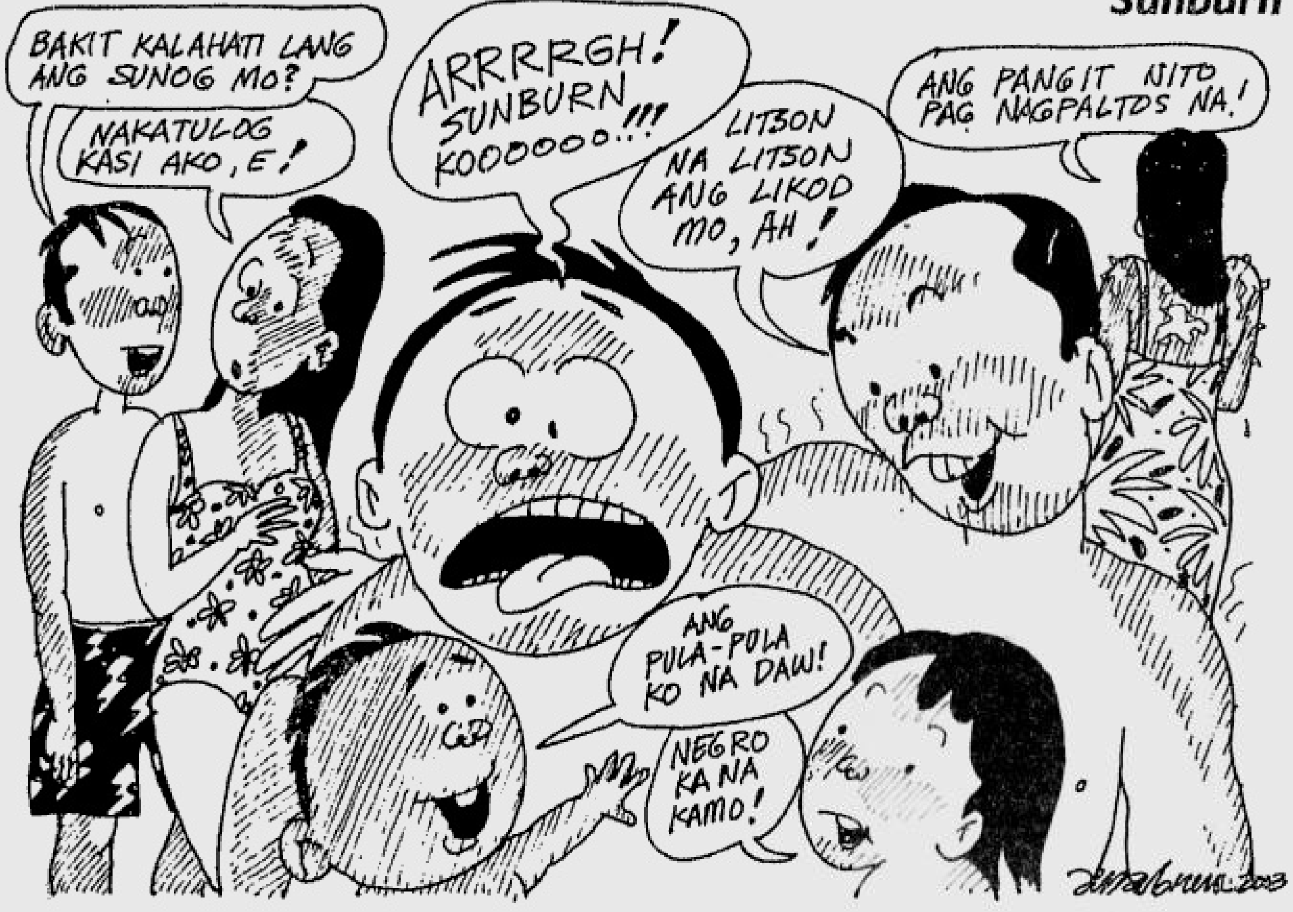
X-manila

The logo designed by Prof. J. Karl Roque Jr. of Cebu City was chosen as the **winning entry to the nationwide logo design contest** recently sponsored by the soon-to-rise Art Center in Negros called Balay Taliambong: The Cojuangco Museum and Art Center. Roque is currently a member of the faculty of the College of Fine Arts at the University of the Philippines in Cebu.

Pinoy Nga

By Jess Abrera

Sunburn


BAKIT KALAHATI LANG ANG SUNOG MO?
NAKATULOG KASI AKO, E!
ARRRRGH! SUNBURN KOOOOOO..!!!
LITSON NA LITSON ANG LIKOD MO, AH!
ANG PANGIT NITO PAG NAGPALTOS NA!
ANG PULA-PULA KO NA DAW!
NEGRO KA NA KAMO!
Jess Abrera 2003

For this week's bands and schedules call:

- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The SUNDAY INQUIRER MAGAZINE welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules.

LoveNotes

...from page 2

Dear Fall,

When opportunity arises, most men would likely flirt around. But they would do so with different levels of seriousness. There are those who would just toy with the thought and there would be those who would seriously consider making a pass. But it doesn't always mean that they want to change their partners. It is a selfish justification but that's just how most men are.

Fall, what worries me is not how Mark reacted to your little experiment but why you had to test him in the first place. Jealousy, to a certain extent, keeps a relationship on its feet. But, when it goes beyond reason and sensibility, it does more harm than good. Unwarranted suspicion puts a lot of pressure in the relationships that we want to preserve in the first place.

It is a fact that there are a lot of men who have been unfaithful to their partners. When an incidence of infidelity comes out in the open, women are traumatized and hurt. They find it difficult to forgive, to understand and to trust again. They still hold on because of love but they suffer silently inside.

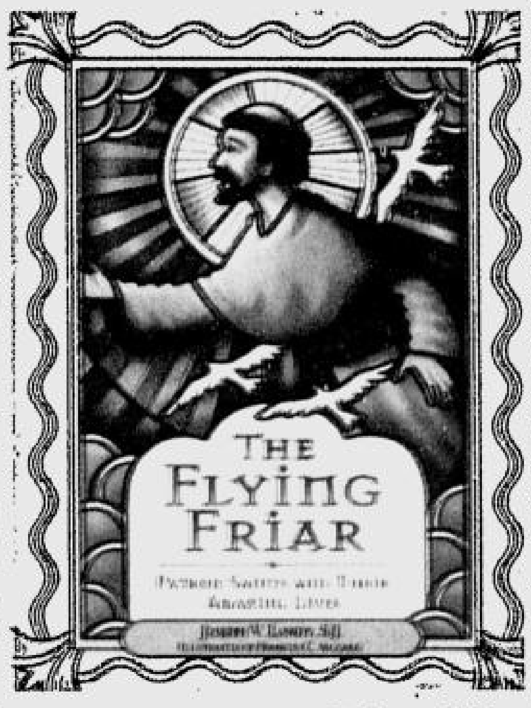
Fall, we should not suffer because we chose to love someone. Real love should bring us happiness and a reassuring sense of security. You have realized something very important. We should not count on others for our happiness. If we do, we would be forever prisoners of the fear of being alone. Real happiness should come from within us. It starts with self-appreciation which brings out confidence that battles against feats of unnecessary jealousy. Insecurity just breeds contempt. Let us always remember that the best way to keep a relationship is not in magnifying the faults in it but in looking at the good it has done and strengthening it with love, trust and respect.

Enchantments

...from page 6

Philippine Publications:

"The Flying Friar"
By Joseph V. Landy, illustrated by Frances C. Alcaraz
Tahanan Books for Young Readers



Did you know that Thomas Aquinas is the patron saint of people endangered by lightning? Or that St. Teresa of Avila is the patron of those who suffer from migraines? Over the centuries, people have assigned a certain saint to intercede for them, whether it's to help them cook a better meal (St. Lawrence) or safeguard an entire country (the Sacred Heart of Mary). In cheerful language that avoids excessive moralizing, Fr. Joseph Landy retells the lifestory of 26 of these patron saints. Parents might occasionally be needed to explain phrases like "this happy conjunction of sanctity and worldly success" but children will generally have little trouble understanding the text. Stained glass-style illustrations enhance each story, but it's a pity they aren't in color.

"Maya Maya Jumbolaya"
By Gidget R. Jimenez, illustrated by Pepper Roxas
Tahanan Books for Young Readers

The little birds know they're in trouble the moment they hear, "Mumbo Jumbo, Mumbo Jumbo. I've got a hungry ache in my tumbo!" Maya Maya, the "big bad bully bird," has come to steal their lunch again. Greed can only go so far, though, and Maya Maya learns the hard way (let's just say it involves big paws and sharp claws.) Rhyming sentences and bright googly-eyed drawings make this book ideal for pre-schoolers. For best effects, read aloud and give that "mumbo jumbo" all the flapping, stomping, harrumphing energy you've got.

Maya Maya Jumbolaya
The Big Bad Bully Bird
by Gidget R. Jimenez
Pictures by Pepper Roxas

***"Sarap Maging Bata!* Storybooks"**
By various authors
Tahanan Books for Young Readers and Unicef

Two silly old kings wage a war that lasts years long. Gangs of lice settle in a little girl's head. A young boy copes with life in an evacuation center. Cinderella and Superman encourage a street child to go back to school. These are some of the 10 stories in this set of books that celebrates the rights of a child. Authors include multi-awarded Rene Villanueva and Dr. Luis Gatmaitain, with artwork by the members of Ang Ilustrador ng Kabataan. The stories are as varied as they are colorful with none of that lesson-crammed-down-your-throat aftertaste. Read-aloud fans will particularly enjoy the numerous sound-effects of Ma. Corazon Remigio's "Sip-Sip." It will also teach them to appreciate different points of view, even if it involves something as simple as eating.

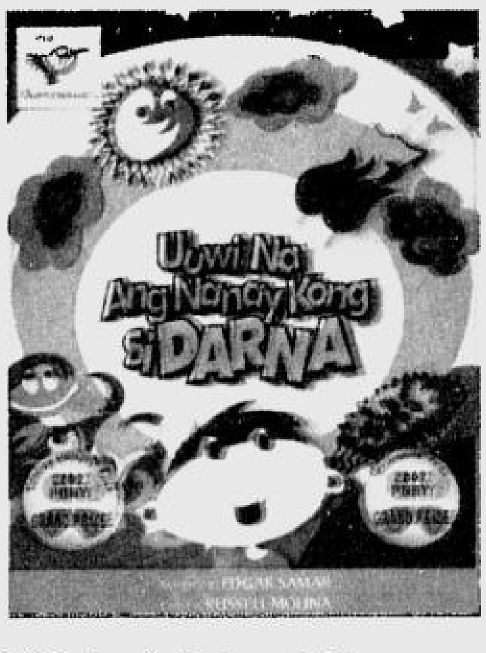
"Og Uhog"
By Christine S. Bellen, illustrated by Jason Moss
Lampara Books

You've probably met Og, the kid in class who always has a bit of snot dangling from his nose. In the introduction, Dr. Luis Gatmaitan explains how some children are snotty-nosed because they haven't yet learned to control their nasal breathing. Still, it doesn't stop other children from being mean to someone like Og. In the end, though, Og does learn to blow his nose and a nasty little girl gets her comeuppance. The book revels in the gross sense of humor kids relish without losing sight of the healthy lesson it intends to impart.

"The Zimbragatzees of the Planet Zing"
By Rene O. Villanueva, illustrated by Jason Moss
Lampara Books

Zimbragatzees have all sorts of noses. Some have long snout-y noses. Others have short, stumpy noses. A few even have striped or fuzzy noses. And if they didn't have noses, the Zimbragatzees would all look alike. What happens then when, one day, their noses just vanish? This zany Palanca award-winning story reminds kids to care about the environment, especially since great ideas can come from them too. With quirky illustrations by Jason Moss, expect this book to become a favorite.

"Anina ng Mga Alon"
By Eugene Evasco
Adarna House



Imagine growing up among a people whose life and very soul is the sea, and you are the only one who was born on land. As a Badjao, Anina often ponders the circumstances of her birth. She knows her people call themselves "children of the sea" but she cannot yet say if she is one herself. Grand-prize winner of the 2002 Pilar Perez Medallion, this lyrical novel is rich reading for all ages. The Badjao way of life is described in bountiful detail, and the threats to their existence, from dynamite fishing to the military-insurgent conflict in the south, are similarly underscored. Forced to leave the sea of their ancestors, Anina's family faces even greater difficulty in the parched city. Yet wherever she goes, Anina sees the swell and ripple of waves in all things, leaving little doubt as to where her own soul has always been moored.

"Uuwi na Ang Nanay Kong si Darna"
By Edgar Samar, illustrated by Russell Molina
Adarna House

A little boy delights in his father's account of a dust-busting, laundry-whitening, lullabye-singing superhero in this humorous take on the not-so-humorous reality of OFW parents being separated from their children. As more children grow up with one or both parents working in another country, this award-winning story not only dramatizes a way of life that is becoming more common, but its gentle approach might yet provide some comfort to these parents and the children they leave behind.

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